

SPECIAL: CANADA AT THE OLYMPICS

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CANADA'S WEEKLY NEWSMAGAZINE

AUGUST 16 2004

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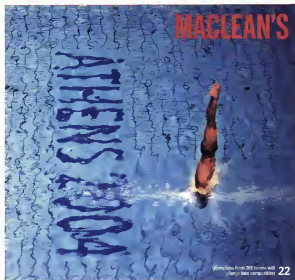
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MACLEAN'S PHOTOGRAPHY
COVER: ANDREW DUNN/GETTY IMAGES

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THE FLAG-WAVING BEGINS

Winning is great. But let's honour anyone who wears the nation's colours with pride.

IF YOU WONDER about the up-and-down life of Canada's Olympic athletes, consider Perla in Folsom. At 23, the Pickering, Ont., athlete is one of our best hopes for gold at the Athens Summer Games. A one-time NCAA champion and 2003 U.S. collegiate female All-Star of the Year, she's a top-ranked sprinter in Europe, where 60,000 people watched her last year in the won the world championship in her 100-m hurdle category. And when Jonathan

Goatsworth caught up with her a couple of weekends ago (page 29)—two weeks before the start of the Games—you'd figure, logically, that she'd be despondent, her time fully to lose out, last-minute training before flying to Athens with the rest of our Olympians. And she was—with one exception: she needed some off, an typical over-achievementer's fish out, so she and some friends could pick her belongings and move. The friends were essential, and so were their cars—because Perla isn't quite ready to drive one.

Talk's like that for both the best and brightest and lesser-known of our Olympic athletes: one minute you're standing in front of millions of television viewers worldwide as your event unfolds, and next thing, it's over—and back to reality again. All that remains is the decision whether to devote four or five years of your life to endless, unending, unrelenting and all-consuming training before the Games come around once more.

Ideally like to joining the Olympics as a chance for every member of the family of nations to compete as equals—playing under the same rules in the same conditions for the same gold, silver and bronze medals. In fact, virtually nothing about the Olympics speaks to real equality. The bigger, richer countries almost always win more medals than smaller, poorer ones, more events count far more in winners than others, and each country's team has a hierarchy of stars and lesser-known. And for years, of course, the greatest success has been the use of the word "amateur" to uniformly describe the athletes. Some—and most of Canada's team fit this description—really do survive on slave wages while donating their lives to the sport they love. But in the modern-day Games, they're up alongside acknowledged professionals in the basketball

“One minute you're in front of millions of TV viewers worldwide, the next it's over—and it's back to reality again.”

players) and competition is discontinuous as the 100-m sprinters, who are capable of pulling in advertisement deals that can grapple their incomes in millions.

Maclean's coverage in Athens will be handled by Garth Coates and Ken MacQuinn, while Senior Editor James Doonan is a veteran of five Games—coordinating efforts from Toronto. As our preview makes clear (page 12), there's something in Athens to interest everyone. Canadians will be pleased and proud if our athletes perform well—and reap the commercial benefits that come with it. But we also hold another place in our hearts for the also-rans and participants in lesser-known events who do what they do without hope of material reward. Talk to any athlete who's competed internationally, and they almost always say that the high they get from pulling on a jersey with their country's name and insignia on it is one of the great experiences of their lives. Vince Lombardi famously said, “Winning isn't everything, it's the only thing”—but not when it comes to the Olympics, where taking part is an end in itself. Let the Maple Leaf waving begin.

Anthony Wilson-Smith

awilson@maclean.ca or comment on The Editor's Letter

MACLEAN'S

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An Experiment

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Does aggressive marketing dehumanize kids up for adoption? No. Do what needs doing, and do it before their anguish is irreversible. —Lynn Goldstead, Angkor, Ont.

The needs of children

We enjoyed your story on the "Ethics of hard-sell adoption" (Caveir, July 26) about using websites and videos to "market" children for adoption. As parents who five years ago adopted our now 10-year-old son, we are excited and very supportive of the excellent use of technology to raise awareness for children awaiting adoption—they will benefit so greatly from a supportive family environment. Messages to those who are willing to think outside the box to meet the needs of children.

Raeen Wright, Queenville, Ont.

I wonder if what the real pressure is that we parents "ethically-dilect" adoption struggles is that the recent deluge of children into publicly funded care is unsustainable, and that meeting one of your rule will cause the backlog and bring the budget under control? (By the way, welcome to Ontario, Family Services of Halton Region, Charing Mills, Ont.)

I cannot stress enough the importance of open adoption, where adoptive and birth parents share information. As an adoptive who is now an adult, not knowing who my birth parents are has been devastating. All I have ever wanted was to see someone who looks like me, say thank you for having me, chat about medical history and find out if they ever read or see me again. Unfortunately, my birth mother has plans to even on my death, allowing no contact. I'm still hopeful that one day she will change her mind. Possibly when the black void in my heart will heal. Michelle McMillen, Victoria

I was surprised to read your assertion that "The vast majority of the remaining [unadopted] children grow up without the love and security they'd get from concerned parents." My wife and I have been foster parents for five years and have had 24 children pass through our home. In addition to our two biological children, we take kids from ages 4 to 10 and we care for these children like our own. We are loving, committed, and a lot of the children who have passed through



our home and family have wished we could. Ask the kids, they'll tell you. Richard Clark, Niagara Falls, Ont.

Even though still a teenager, I have seen for too many children being moved from foster home to foster home, in and out and back again, and the damage that it can do to these young and delicate lives. These kids need permanent structure, and anything that is done that even remotely creates awareness of this problem is a step toward the solution.

Jacoby Sakai, South River, Mass.

My partner and I are proud adoptive moms. We applied through a private agency in

Olympic spirit | A glory worth savouring more than gold riches

In our first ever story, "Big night of riches" we pointed out what is quite obvious to us watching fireworks: The firing of Barack Obama's State House, it is up with his family, his on his way to Ottawa. He'll be bringing a strong message to the people of Canada and cheering on his public life. Obama, it is the Olympics for Canada. "If this is not being rich," he says, "I don't know what is."

Alberta last year and after only five weeks on the waiting list we were selected for an in-suit placement of infant twins. Our anxiety that previous serious couples can also provide loving homes for children in need. So the question must be asked: with over 2000 children in care, and the hard-sell push by Alberta Children's Services to find homes for them, why the resistance to placing these kids with suitable families of all sorts?

Rebecca Lefebvre, Edmonton

A bad rap

I find it entirely Canada that we are peering the Greeks under the microscope when it comes to finishing the Olympics on time and on budget ("Athens under the gun," Olympics, July 26). Does anyone remember how our unfinished stadium for the 1976 Montreal Games went well over budget? Why are we peering fingers?

Don Home, Calgary, Ont.

As a Greek Canadian and an Athens 2004 volunteer, I am dismayed that a respectable Canadian magazine has joined the yellow journalism ranks in publishing yet more negative news about Athens 2004. Unlike what happened at the Montreal Games, the Athens stadium is completed and the roof is waiting. As for the debt, the land-levelling is well in hand. The beautiful new stadium system is now in operation, and the fast rail link to the airport is about to be finished. This will be the best modern Olympics ever.

Paul Papadimitriou, Athens

I was reading in your magazine about the children in Romania, about the many in Canada who have no permanent homes, and the thousands around the world orphaned because of AIDS and who now have the disease themselves. Then I turned the page. I learned that Greece is spending \$1.4 billion on security for the Olympic Games. I love the Olympics and plan to watch the entire two weeks, but something is wrong when that much money is spent protecting athletes and spectators, and so little is spent helping the world's children.

Laurence Morris, Guelph, Ont.

Enforcing the vote

I read John Geddes's article on "Saving democracy" (Politics, July 19) with interest, and was intrigued by the chart that provided

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an international perspective as the low voter turnout in our last federal election. What about Australia? It was not mentioned, but should have been. There has been congressional voting in Australian federal elections since 1924—our can be fined for not voting. In the last 2001 federal election, over 95 per cent of eligible voters voted. Something to consider, perhaps?

Brenda Potvin, Saskatoon

Insure me, insure me not

I read with disgust about the tactics insurance companies will use to push and cheat their clients. ("Dear policyholder..." Personal Finance, July 26). We seem to live our lives trying to avoid making a claim for anything, bending over backwards to appease these companies in hopes of retaining the privilege to pay outrageous rates. From kids' soccer games to school trips, from cars to houses, the insurance industry has its greedy hands in our pockets, sipping as we sit and can't do under a cloud threat of cancelling our policies. It's dehumanizing and sad.

Luana Campbell, Seattle

Insurance companies are in business to make money. They take risks by insuring your property, and if the risk is too great it is within their rights to decline it.

Rose Thomas, Calgary

Of course the insurance companies need to be able to reject some high-risk properties, but as long as people with mortgages are required to have home insurance, then the companies must establish guidelines for acceptance and refusal that are sensible—not simply based on maximizing profits. If they cannot do this themselves, then the government must do it for them.

Nora Field, Fort Collins, Colo.

Insurance is not a charity, it's a business.

Derek Anger, Toronto

Insurance fraud is one of the main reasons why premiums are so high. If the insurance company finds out that you've broken the "unimpaired body" agreement by lying or failing to notify of a change in your situation, this is grounds for cancelling a policy. This cancelled status stays on your record, and if you try to get insurance with another



Insurance isn't a charity, it's a business, says one reader. Others say the industry is greedy.

entity, it will see this and either decline your application or increase your premiums.

Sarah Adams, Ottawa

It is the same in the U.K. Insurance companies are in business to make money—they are not benefactors. The idea of insurance is you pay the premiums, and they accept the risk—except, of course, when they don't. The only clients they want are those whose no risk. Don't expect the companies to pay out without a fight.

Lee Cooper, Chalfont, England

Truth about sex

I am writing in regard to your article "Can science give you a better sex life?" (Cover, July 19). The article suggests that the problem of female sexual dysfunction may be

caused by drug companies that those of us who suffer from this frustrating and humiliating condition can tell you that it does not interest you to the side effects of chemical dysfunction. Since women are twice as likely as men to suffer

clinical depression, the occurrence of sexual dysfunction is to be expected in the female population.

Sophie Clancy, Conynville, Ont.

I have found that bright, witty, gentle, compassionate men have had the greatest, most effective results on my libido—but all the men I know who fall into this category are either taken or unavailable. Maybe there is a way our Canadian education system could produce better educated men, who would then become more desirable lovers. The health system would benefit because women would not suffer as much from PMS and the pharmaceutical companies could concentrate on researching cures for real diseases.

Christa Frost, Salt Spring Island, B.C.

Border dispute

In his letter complaining about how miserable Julie Payette left our Newfoundland when she referred to crossing Canada coast-to-coast from space, Paul Jackson had it partly right, and yet wrong ("Home is where the coast starts," The Mail, July 26). Yes, a traveller crossing Canada would start his or her trek from St. John's, Nfld., but would finish not in Vancouver, as he indicated, but in Victoria. I'm quite sure that Payette would be the first to agree that this is truly coast-to-coast.

Giles St. Denis, Victoria

MACLEAN'S BEHIND THE SCENES



YOUTH POWER

Twenty-four-year-old Katrina As wants to start a not-for-profit organization that will provide video production services to other community groups in Vancouver. Last month in Toronto, as part of a four-week pilot project of the World Youth Centre, As (above, bottom row, second from left) shared her vision with other young social entrepreneurs from around the globe, who also voiced their ideas on how to make the world a better place.

Maclean's was one of the private supporting organizations that helped these young social entrepreneurs learn, among other things, how to create community groups that are economically sustainable. "For Maclean's, this was a unique opportunity to facilitate an open exchange of ideas that will be implemented," says Marissa Cruz, the magazine's director of marketing and communications. "This is an exciting prospect for any creative business."

"Instead of being handed fish, World

Help shape what's inside Maclean's by registering as a member of the Maclean's Advisory Panel at www.macleans.ca/ajp. For further information about this article, contact behindthescenes@macleans.ca.

Youth Centre is teaching us how to fish," says As. The initiatives range from HIV/AIDS prevention projects in India to a global communications trade centre in Quebec to computer education programs in Kosovo. "Social innova-

tion is happening from the ground up in different global contexts," says As. "What is amazing to me is how others in this program are finding solutions to problems in the communities they come from."

"World Youth Centre puts Canada securely on the global stage in terms of engaging young people around social issues," says its executive director, Carolyn Taylor. "It's so important for organizations like Maclean's to help provide the environment that brings these creative youth together with young people from Canada who have made a conscious commitment to believe in their ideas."

Says Taylor: "These young social entrepreneurs represent the best of progress and remind us that the world can come together to find a way to address difficult problems."

CANADIANS IN THE DARK ABOUT GINGIVITIS RISK FACTORS

Gingivitis. It's a familiar word for an extremely common condition. But do Canadians really know what it means? New survey results reveal that even though more than three-quarters of Canadians suffer from gingivitis, only 4.8 per cent can accurately define gingivitis as the earliest stage of gum disease. And to compound matters, most Canadians aren't aware of the hidden risk factors that make people more prone to getting gingivitis.

If Canadians claim to know what gingivitis is, how many of us actually do?

While the vast majority can't say for sure, only 4.8 per cent can.

Spotlight On Gingivitis

So if most Canadians have gingivitis... why do we know more about it?

Between the sexes, more women (36 per cent) "gingivitis" than their male (29%). Knowledge of gingivitis: Canada - 89 per cent of all who have gingivitis is, while 21 per cent of those without gingivitis during the last 12 months.

What's the story? 'Tis a mystery.

75% of people have gingivitis.

Chances are, you're one of them. Ask your dental professional.

Mansbridge on the Record



BILL CLINTON'S 'FIRST'

When the former president came to Canada, he was in for a singular surprise

LET ME SET the scene, and you'll discover the story behind the story of Bill Clinton's book signing in Toronto last week.

While thousands of people lined up outside a downtown bookstore for his arrival, up above on the 15th floor of one of the city's finest hotels, representatives of the only two Canadian television networks granted 15 minutes with the former president were waiting in well. Clinton, notorious in effort for keeping people waiting, seems to have kept that trait. At one end of the hallway were Seasons 52's Regan, the friendly face of CTV's *Canada AM*, and his crew, and at the other, the CBC contingent and me—all peering down at the time away. Camera had been ready for hours, wedged into not real room suites that had the beds shuffled out of the way to give the background appearance of a colonial living room.

Suddenly, with a half dozen or so Secret Service agents at his side, out of the Secret Service stopped the 42nd president of the United States, running about an hour late. The understandably, the arrival caused a commotion in Michigan couple and their daughter visiting Toronto had been standing at their doorway, and Clinton stopped to chat, allowed pictures to be taken, and signed some books.

“

Out stepped a thirty-something guy in his pants, who said: 'I thought I heard Bill Clinton's voice'.

thought I heard Bill Clinton's voice.”

The Secret Service agents weren't sure whether to laugh or cheer for whatever they had on their heads, while the man who used to be the most powerful person in the world simply bellowed a laugh, shook out his hand, and shook the poor chap completely awake. Later, I tapped on the door and asked the fellow what his story was. He'd flown in from Boston late the night before and had a long business meeting scheduled for the afternoon, so he was sleeping late. When he woke to the racket outside his room, he got up and peeked through the little apertures in the door. He could see only camera flashes, the back of heads—and his own first instinct voice. So he opened the door.

As for Clinton, when he sat down with us, below the camera roll, asked whether he'd ever been confronted with anything quite like this. He shook his head, laughed, and said that moment was a “first.” Then, the interview started and it was on to true, Bush and bin Laden.

Earlier, I mentioned how the sign-off upon time for each interview was 15 minutes. While it's rare for a guest to leave exactly when the time expires, funny things often do happen. In Clinton's case, first it was a staffer, standing part outside the room, and his cellphone had been beeped for 15 minutes with no sound ringing in the 1990s. Then, she moved past the 20-minute mark (and clearly Clinton wanted to keep going—no wonder he's always late) his conversation came person sitting behind me started coughing, and then coughing. And coughing. It almost seemed a great answer, but did bring things to an end. Coincidence? You decide.

Oh, yes, one final scene on our waiting list: newsman from MSNBC whom they were leaving Clinton wasn't there approved. ☐

Peter Mansbridge is Chief Correspondent of CBC Television News and Anchor of *The National*. To comment: td@tdnews.com or 416-922-5000.

FaceTime

Definitely not shy, André Quinlan didn't get to be a Liberal spokeswoman by *Shirley*. The Canada Post president, a Quebecer with only a few years of French, said she was a former model, a former actress, a former back with a 12-page résumé of 12 years of experience in the fashion industry, and a former model. She was also a former model, a former actress, a former back with a 12-page résumé of 12 years of experience in the fashion industry, and a former model.



Quinlan, 40, is a former model, a former actress, a former back with a 12-page résumé of 12 years of experience in the fashion industry, and a former model.



Good Samaritan, 40, is a former model, a former actress, a former back with a 12-page résumé of 12 years of experience in the fashion industry, and a former model.



Quinlan, 40, is a former model, a former actress, a former back with a 12-page résumé of 12 years of experience in the fashion industry, and a former model.



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WORLD

MONROE HAD In what was supposed to be the worst election since 1994, at least 1,800 people have died in South Asia during the past few days. But the death toll is likely to rise as the country is under attack, and it has been forced to mobilize its predated accept UN food and medical aid.

SUDAN African Union countries were on Monday sending a mass military peacekeeping force of 2,000 soldiers down mainly from Rwanda and Nigeria to Sudan's western Darfur region, where pro-government Arab militias have forced over a million black Africans from their homes. Meanwhile, sent mixed signals about such a deployment: a large government-backed rally decried foreign intervention in the country, while the administration itself pledged to take new steps to disarm the warring militias.

IRAQ U.S. troops and helicopter gunships pounded the private army of renegade Shiite Muslims al-Sadr in the holy city of Najaf, in the west fighting since the fall of Baghdad. The clashes quickly spread to other Shiite cities and broke a truce that had been in place since June. The U.S. reported 300 insurgents killed in two days of fighting.

MIDDLE EAST It was not a good birthday for Yasser Arafat (he turned 75). The UN pulled key personnel from the Gaza Strip, citing safety concerns over a renewed escalation by Israeli troops and settlers, as well as a conflict between Arafat's Palestinian forces and the Israeli army. Arafat's forces, however, the first divisions of any kind since the 1960s—militarized, beginning in Riyadh—will take place in November, six months later than first proposed, and in cooperation with UN advisers.

TRAPPED About 400 people died when fire raged through a crowded supermarket in Azerbaijan, Paraguay Authorities fled manufacturing charges against the owner and three others, for allegedly locking the doors so fire would not be noticed.

WELFARE Despite days of street demonstrations by war vets and pensioners, Russia's



ADIEU With his last, Bill Clinton, and his death to anything, Clinton, 68, died of cancer after a long battle with the disease. He was the 42nd president of the United States, serving from 1993 to 2001. He was the first president to be impeached, and the first to be acquitted. He was also the first president to be impeached and acquitted.

pro-Putin parliament began dismantling the Communist welfare state by replacing free transportation and subsidized medicines with modest monthly pensions for about 30 million people, a fifth of the population.

MAJID Displaced at gunpoint by British troops and settlers nearly a century ago, Kenya's formidable Maasai warriors and

herders want their country back. They are launching a legal claim that says a treaty signed in 1904 was really a 100-year lease that expires this month.

PKA A closed-up, digitized scene of a police recording the day U.S. President John F. Kennedy was killed in 1963 may put an end to the controversy over whether Lee Harvey

David was the lone gunman, as the Warren Commission said—or not, as a later congressional committee reported. U.S. agencies are using ultra-modern equipment to create a digital image of the sound patterns on the old Deaglyphic book because it has deteriorated too much to be played.

HEALTH | SCIENCE

MERCURY With its very own ceramic cloth umbrella, a tiny life-supporting called Messenger shies off as a 60-year, eight-billion-litre water trip to Mercury, the latest heavenly body to get its close-up—and the planet closest to the sun.

AIDS Researchers in Taiwan report that going against antiretroviral drugs to those infected with HIV can cut transmission of AIDS by half, presumably by reducing the strength of the dead virus in the body. It's a finding that argues strongly in favor of blanketing AIDS-infected Third World countries with modern drugs.

FRIGID ARK Three British institutions are creating a frozen bank of frozen DNAs to preserve the life codes of thousands of creatures on the verge of extinction. Some scientists believe that over the next three decades as many as one-quarter of known mammals and 10 percent of birds will die because of climate change and the loss of habitat to human settlement.

BY HARRIS DEAR



CAUGHT A BIG ONE Emerging up in Haiti's Port-au-Prince, Haiti, June 30, 2010, a large boy that had been found didn't want to talk for the first time. He was found and rescued by the 21st Air Force Hospital, about 12,000 ft above the ground.

CANADA

WHAT PACKING For cheap, sell high. When the U.S. shut its doors to Canadian cattle because of mad cow disease, a glut of low-cost

beef created windfall profits—they nearly tripled for Alberta's two largest meat packers, the province's cattle or general food. He said companies did not benefit as properly from the crisis, but that the federal-provincial aid package distorted the market.

WINDFALL It took two years, but the Canadian branch of the United Food and Commercial Workers became the first union to get a tickle in the North American Wild West zone. It is certified to represent 180 workers in Jasper, Que., and has vowed to organize other Canadian unions over the workplace, union phone Arkansas smaller.

WILDFIRES Cooler weather helped firefighters hold back nearly 345 fires from spreading it. But not before it became the first destroyed the historic north where firefighters fought to save the world's largest natural forest in the 1950s for rescuing a flock of endangered mountain sheep. Another comes when a few dozen members of the University of British Columbia campus in Vancouver, searching the cliffs over West Beach.

AUSITIS Saying something is not the place to rewrite social insurance, the Ontario Court of Appeal overturned a lower court judge who had banned child sexual offenses to three Jamaican women caught smuggling cocaine. In a ruling that made headlines in the case, the trial judge argued that one young girl (black mother) was being exploited by drug traffickers and that race was a mitigating factor.

SPY STUFF Ottawa is investigating whether Israel's shadow spy agency has been using doctored Canadian passports to move around the world after promising in 1997 never to do so again. The latest case flows from a New Zealand trial in which two Israeli Mossad agents were caught illegally trying to obtain New Zealand passports, and a third apparently slipped away on a Canadian one. In 1997, Israeli agents were nabbed while using Canadian passports to travel to Jordan to assassinate a Hamas leader.

BOTTOM LINE Soho Inc., the Hamilton-based maker that fell off the rails, posted a surprise quarterly profit of \$42 million, a slight improvement because Soho is operating under bankruptcy protection.

Mary Janigan | ON THE ISSUES



PEACEMAKER POLITICS

Yes, Martin won the election, but he still has to win over a divided Liberal party

DURING THOSE grim days of 1917 when the horrors of the First World War had upped the stakes of warring volunteers, Sir Robert Borden's Conservative government actually turned to conscription. To bolster his position, Borden served Liberal leader Sir Wilfrid Laurier to join a coalition government. Miffed at Quebec's opposition to forced conscription, Laurier demurred. But his English Canadian colleagues were not so constrained, rising with the notable exception of William Lyon Mackenzie King, arrested across the floor to Borden's "Union" made. The Liberal party disintegrated. But not for long. By December 1917, King was the new PM of a Great minority government.

The wily Liberal had pooled up their ribs. "That was a much more serious decision than this one," says Queen's University political studies expert Hugh Thompson. "But King pulled them together very quickly. It didn't take long before the old dog was back." But Martin's own and everyone else's head might. After all, prior to the election, Martin's own and everyone else's head might. After all, prior to the election, Martin's own and everyone else's head might. After all, prior to the election, Martin's own and everyone else's head might.

The Martin group is confident such tensions are already dissipating. The near-death experience at the polls lured many affected Grits back into the fold. The PM has a clear mandate to act in at least three areas with wide appeal.

to party members' health, stress and child care. His decision to put staunch Quebec federalist Stéphane Dion back in cabinet has somewhat placated naffed loyalties of former PM Jean Chrétien. And, perhaps most importantly, there is no clear opponent for Martin's job. (Some key followers of former leadership contender John Manley have quietly drifted away, keeping their options open for the next contest.)

But Martin is not out of the woods. "He is surrounded by conflict," says another Queen's policy expert, Kathy Brack. "There is conflict within the party—and confrontation with the bureaucracy and the premier." Martin should move fast to heal party and caucus wounds. He should create a highly visible advisory board to seek beyond his insider inner circle for expert advice. And he should involve affected business in change—instead of forcing it upon them. "He has to manage out of this situation," she warns. "Or he will be betrayed."

The PM seems to get the fact that this is no ordinary, wretched summer fall: he has quietly given his shadowy inner circle the go-ahead to convene again. Prior to the next Liberal convention, which should be held in late 2005, there will be a series of regional policy meetings, nation-building in coalition resolutions. (There will also be a vote on Martin's leadership.) "The party has to go through both renewal and healing," says former president Stephen LeDrew. "We're seeing the end of history for Liberal social policies from the 1960s and 1970s many have been whined. So where does the future lie? The party has to regenerate itself." For Martin, this is his chance to be part of the solution to problems he helped to create. For the party, this is a chance to see without its new PM and his caucus, it is once again cobbling itself together.

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Passages

SENTENCED Sverre Robinson, 32, was given a conditional discharge—meaning he will have no criminal record—and ordered to continue psychiatric counselling after pleading guilty to a B.C. court-mustering a diamond ring valued at \$21,300. The high-profile former MP continued to the crime back in April, calling it a moment of utter irrationality.

TURNED DOWN Notorious pedophile Karl Telf, 62, serving 13 years for abusing boys at Ringwood Youth Training Centre in New Brunswick, was denied permission to reside from a halfway house in Edmonton on his own. He was released in up in December 2003.

MORDED A crowd that numbered in the thousands lined up for hours outside a Toronto bookstore to see a book by former U.S. president Bill Clinton. Titled "A man's story," Clinton signed 1,000 copies of his 1996-2001, but 30 percent of the crowd on the occasion—and walked the crowd like a pro.

CHARGED David Caraculnicu, 46, of Toronto, a former ParticipACTION official active in sporting events across the country, is accused of murdering his son, Ian, 11, in a London, Ont., hotel room. Some reports said Ian was suffering from a brain tumour.

DENIED Harry Schmidt, 39, the now ex-U.S. pilot who bombed Canadian troops in error in Afghanistan two years ago, killing four, has had final military appeal. Found guilty of dereliction of duty, Schmidt is considering a lawsuit to try to clear his name.

RECOVERING Steve Jobs, 49, the next-generation visionary who founded Apple Computers, had surgery for pancreatic cancer. The prognosis is good. Jobs has a rare but often curable form of the disease.





Crisis in Sudan | David Agnew

'YOU SEE VERY FEW FATHERS'

SUDAN'S DARFUR REGION, an area roughly the size of France, is now home to more than a million people—mainly women and children—forced from their homes and living in makeshift camps or in the open. Thousands are fleeing each week from multi-front war and disease. Some call the situation genocide—an attempt by Arab militia to eradicate black African villagers through rape and killings. The UN says simply that Darfur is the worst humanitarian crisis on the planet today. UNICEF Canada CEO David Agnew travelled through the area recently, visiting two of the larger camps. He witnessed a desperate situation.

What did you see at the camps?

A hugely vulnerable people. Their response naturally has been to flee, and for many it's meant long walks into the desert, the bush. It's only recently some have arrived at camps with medical facilities, food and shelter.

What stood out the most for you?

It's the number of children who are severely malnourished, many suffering from acute colic or malaria. You also see very few fathers. Men are the target of raids by the Janjaweed militia, so some villages are totally depopulated of males beyond beyond old men. At one camp, a survey found 65 per cent children and only 10 per cent men.

Reports say some empty villages are being taken over by nomadic Arabs. Is that true?

I didn't see any of that, but the occupations seem to be part of the militia's strategy to intimidate the villagers. What is truly worrisome is that even after very high profile visits to the region and promises of action, stories of atrocities continue to come out, whether it's the extraordinary level of sexual violence, or the massacres, or the recent reports of people being burned alive.

Are there enough aid workers on the ground?

Oh no, there's a huge shortage of resources. There are at least 200,000 displaced people we have never laid eyes on. We are losing children as we speak to malnourishment and disease. It's been very difficult to deliver aid, not just because of security concerns but because of obstacles in getting into these areas. Now, a new problem has arisen: the rainy season. Dry river beds are suddenly swollen with water. That means thousands of people who were living there, able to get shade and dig for water, now have to move.

Is the West falling Africa apart?

The bigger picture here is, the wealthiest nations—Canada included—have not lived up to their commitments to international assistance. On an individual level, I know there's an element of helplessness it's like, "Here we go again." But what's hard to convey is how incredibly dedicated the survivors are to getting on with their lives, somehow searching for hours in the sun waiting for medical care. It's our responsibility to watch the coping skills come to the fore. You see how hugely unfair this is. **ROBERT SHEPPARD**



EVERY TIME A PIECE OF NATURE DISAPPEARS, A PART OF US GOES WITH IT. Nature is a big part of what it means to be Canadian. And a big part of what makes this country such a great place to live. The Nature Conservancy of Canada, a national non-profit organization, is working to ensure that our natural heritage continues to thrive. Since 1962, we've helped protect more than 1,800 natural areas. You can help protect hundreds more. Join the Protectors Club at www.natureconservancy.ca or call 1-800-465-0029.



PLAYING THE TERRORISM CARD?

The U.S. orange alert raised anxiety—and questions about whether the White House was crying wolf

IF YOU IGNORE the arrest checkpoints, the media hordes and all the police cars in lower Manhattan, the scene on Broadway outside the New York Stock Exchange remains as it was 10 weeks ago. Business is brisk. Tourists flock to Trinity Church, which is located adjacent to Wall Street. The pedestrian mall near Ground Zero seems in financial district employes' carhoundsville and street vendors hawk photos of the city when the World Trade Center still dominated the skyline. But the increased security as a result of the raised terror alert level announced on Aug. 1 has slowed traffic at times to snail-hour snails. And it's also delayed deliveries during this subzero heat spell as police inspect commercial vehicles driving south on Broadway below City Hall, the most visible consequence of the lack of ice cream at local bodegas.

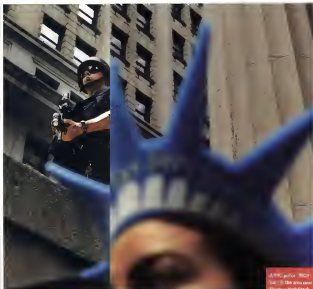
While the atmosphere isn't as chilling as it was in the months following Sept. 11, the recent warnings underscore the fact that financial institutions in the U.S. are potential bull's eyes for another terror strike. Prompted by CIA reports that al Qaeda was preparing another attack, Tom Ridge, secretary of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, raised the terror alert level from yellow (elevated) to orange (high) for certain buildings on the list. Come the first time the alert level has been heightened for precise locations. Those include the World Bank and International Monetary Fund in Washington, Princeton University in New Jersey, and the Citigroup buildings and New York Stock Exchange in New York. Queda, who less than a month before had warned that al Qaeda was planning a "large-scale" U.S. attack to disrupt the upcoming Nov. 2 elections, said the intelligence's planning specificity includes how al Qaeda plans to strike, although not when. "The preferred method of attack, or when it's being suggested, is not and should be not," he said.

But the alert raised doubts among critics, especially with the administration's admission that much of the intelligence leading to the warnings was three or four years old. After the negative publicity from the WIT commission's report, the failure to find weapons of mass destruction and achieve post-war stability in Iraq—not to mention Michael Moore's popular anti-George W. Bush documentary *Fahrenheit 9/11*—some Democrats said the Republicans were crying wolf. "The administration is manipulating evidence in order to affect the President's campaign," charged Howard Dean, the former Vermont governor and failed candidate for president. "The

MANY New Yorkers have learned to live with—or ignore—the possibility of another attack on their city

President has a long history of manipulating public opinion, of going into Iraq on information that turned out not to be true." Government officials countered by citing other sources of intelligence that suggested al Qaeda had used targets as recently as last January. "We don't do politics in the Department of Homeland Security," Ridge insisted.

Still, so many the alert seemed like an attempt to overshadow the Democratic National Convention in Boston, which ended on July 29 (presidential pick John Kerry has remained diplomatically silent on the issue, and his advisers say the question of further terrorist strikes should not be part of the vicious bipartisan political war campaign). And there is little doubt that when the Republican National Convention convenes at New York City's Madison Square



ALONG WITH OTHERS, the area near the New York Stock Exchange building

Garden at the end of August, Bush will try to capitalize on his tough stance on terrorism, the area where the U.S. public sees him as the stronger of the two candidates.

On the streets of New York, meanwhile, some citizens express unease that the Republican picked their city for such a high-profile, high-risk event. Many others, though, feel a certain fatalistic streak toward terrorism, perhaps in part because of the repeated, non-specific warnings the government has issued since Sept. 11. Few doubt that the city's financial centers are a strike, but they've learned to live with—or ignore—the possibility of another strike. The building where I live straddles the line between the New

York and American stock exchanges. "When I asked the doorman whether anti-aircrafts had any sort of plan in case of a terrorist, he laughed and said, 'Send your car and kiss your butt goodbye.' What I said, 'No, seriously,' he pointed to cars at either end of the lobby and told me 'Run.'"

A BIG STEP TOWARD MISSILE DEFENCE

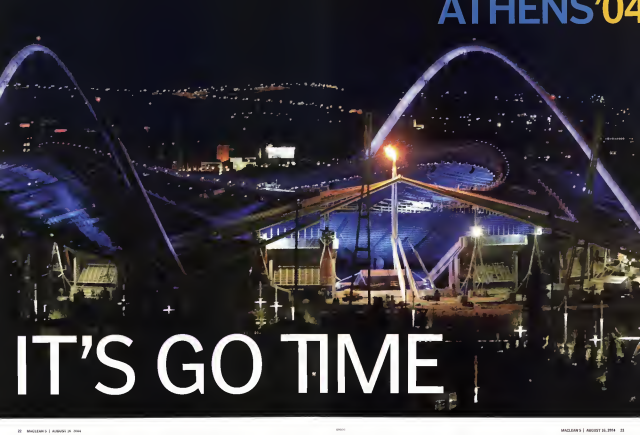
FEW TOOK note late last month when the U.S. installed its first ground-based missile interceptor in a site in a military base at Fort Greely, Alaska. It will, of course, take a lot more to turn George W. Bush's multi-billion-dollar dream of a system capable of reliably shooting down missiles fired at North America into reality. Many experts say it's impossible. But that didn't stop Bush from pushing ahead last week by approving a further \$5.8 billion to keep



on developing so-called national missile defense. And Rumsfeld took a big step toward being left behind—agreeing to change the Canada-U.S. pact governing

the bilateral North American Aerospace Defense Command, to allow NORAD to feed information on possible missile threats to the U.S. interceptor network. Defense Minister Michael Ignatieff denied critics' claims that Canada is being over-looked in signing on to the controversial scheme. "This decision does not affect or in any way determine the ultimate decision as to whether Canada will participate in missile defense," he told reporters. Exactly when that call might be made he wouldn't say. But it's been a long time coming. Back in early 2001, a Canadian effort was placed with the U.S. Missile Defense Agency for consultations. In May 2002, formal discussions with Washington on possible Canadian participation were announced. And last January, Canada and the U.S. exchanged letters of intent confirming both countries' interest in negotiating on the subject.

One possible reason for putting off a decision is the chance that November's U.S. presidential election might take the issue off the table. Sen. Joseph R. Biden is at best lukewarm on missile defense—enough for Democrats to be less concerned about the recent installation in Alaska than with whom Americans next install in the White House. JOHN GEIGES



IT'S GO TIME

DIVING

BY JONATHAN GATEHOUSE

THE QUEST FOR precision in Athens is advancing amid some serious Montreal chaos. Rock music echoes off tiled walls. S shrieking little girls are hurtling themselves from platforms high enough to turn most adult legs to jelly. And flying bodies of all sizes are hitting the pool in such rapid succession that the surface froths like cappuccino.

The stars of Canada's Olympic diving team patiently wait their turn, abating the springboards and towers with future hope-fuls at Centre Claude Robitaille. The dive doesn't stop when they launch; the bodies enter the air, spinning and twisting in elegantly controlled descents, but all eyes are watching. "We never see one of them with a difficult dive, falling into the water with the burst of splash, then a collective whoop and applause. Spectators on the pool deck hold up 10 fingers—a perfect score."

The judges are likely to be harder to impress at the Olympic Aquatics Centre in Athens, but expectations are high for a Canadian team that boasts two reigning 10-m world champions—Alexander Despatie and Émilie Heymans—and the second-ranked women's springboard diver, Blythe Hartley. "We have the capability of medalling in all seven events that we have driven entered in," smiled coach Mitch Geller. "We don't know what colour the medals will be, but we're certainly hoping to avoid the two we took home from Sydney."

Most of the pressure will be on Despatie, who hasn't missed a spot on the podium since the 2000 Games, where he finished fourth in the 10-m. At age 18, the Laval native already owns 25 national titles (24 senior and one junior), four

Heymans, Despatie and Hartley, a team that could win medals in seven events

Commonwealth Games medals and enough Grand Prix points to strike his opponent Brian Wright for the bottom of the pool. In Greece, he's set to compete in three events—the individual 10-m platform and 3-m springboard, and the men's synchro 10-m with teammate Philippe Gagné—and an unusual choice in every one.

Sprowled out on a picnic table after practice, his dark hair still wet from the pool, Despatie tries to ban away notions of Olympic glory. "Diving is a sport of the day," he says. "If you're having a good one, you're lucky. If you're sick or something, you're screwed."

At times, he avoids looking at the score board, preferring to concentrate on his own upcoming dives. He likes it even better in countries where he can't demand the PA announcer and can remain thoughtfully ignorant until the medals are won. "Once you get to a certain level, the mental difference is all there is," he says. "It's who's going to be stronger in the head."

Saying focused in Athens will be his biggest challenge. As a skinny 15-year-old in Sydney, he was almost a misanthrope, the caddy Little Prince everybody was moaning for. "The time he's a favourite—currently ranked world No. 1 in the 3-m, third in the 10-m. He's already a star in Greece—dubbed 'Kassandre the Grease' by the local press, and adored by fans because of his grandfather's Hellenic roots. There have been press conferences, a sore shoulder that kept him out of a May competition. Not that he's taking the proffered crutch. "There is always Grease," says Despatie. "I don't remember the last time I dove and something didn't hurt. But that's normal. We push ourselves to the edge."

Émilie Heymans already knows what it takes to get to the Olympic podium. In 2000, the captured silver in the 10-m synchro event paired with the now-retired Anne Montminy. In Athens, teamed with Hartley, she'll be aiming for the top step. Heymans is also competing on the individual springboard and 10-m platform, in which she's ranked No. 1 in the world.

It's been an up-and-down year following her world championship. She contracted an infection in January, then fell 41 at a Grand Prix event in China in April, just before the Olympic trials. But Heymans, who's known for her powerful style and love of old-school dives, can be dominant on the tower. At the Canadian Winter Nationals in 2003, she clocked up a score of 624.99—the highest mark ever recorded by a woman in the



PHOTOGRAPH BY JON MARCOTTE/REUTERS

10 m, and 30 points better than the gold medal-winning performance in Sydney. "I love to compete. It's such a great feeling when you put out a good performance," says Hejlskov, who speaks softly but radiates intensity. "It gives you a type of energy that spills over into the rest of your life."

Like most of her teammates, the 22-year-old has spent more than half her life working toward the goal of Olympic gold. Six hours a day at the pool, little time for anything outside of diving, just to secure a spot on the team, all the while knowing that one tiny error can be enough to scuttle your hopes. "In the end you deal with the work, the boredom, the pain, because it's something you love to do," she says. "It's my passion."

Butley has also sacrificed for her chance in Athens. Last fall, the North Vancouver native put her studies at the University of Southern California on hold and moved to Montreal in time for Claude Robillard. She's away from family and friends, has spent most of the season on the road, and is working in her second language. In Syd-ney, where she finished 10th on the springboard, it was enough just to have made the team. This time, expectations—her own and those of others—are much higher. Butley jokes about how viewers at home will be able to identify her: she'll be the one who looks nervous. "I'm pretty much a nervous wreck the whole competition," she says with a laugh. "I don't look happy, but that's what works for me."

Geller isn't sure all this pressure is a bad thing. "The Canadian team has tried to insulate its athletes in the past, with mixed results. Now with the new emphasis on the podium, Geller thinks the glare of the spotlight might help his stars keep things in focus, and fulfill their potential. After all, despite patterns to the contrary, the dream of winning the red maple leaf raised to the nation is what has fueled the hard work. "The first time I went to the Olympics, I was going there to see what it was like, live the experience, have a lot of fun." Despite occasionally admitting "This time I can't say I'm not expecting any thing." He's far from alone. ■

photo: gary hogue / ©mike lee, rogers.com



TRACK

BY JONATHAN GATEHOUSE

THIS COUNTRY'S BEST track-and-field medal hope, the reigning world indoor and outdoor women's hurdles champion, a budding superstar on the European circuit, still doesn't own a car. So on a starry Saturday morning, less than two weeks before the start of the Summer Games, and fresh off a flight from a meet in Sweden, Felicia Feliciano has marshalled a group of vehicle-rich friends to help her and her roommate haul boxes of books, clothes, and

disassembled Ikea furniture into their new digs. They're all back at the old apartment waiting to leap into action while she's navigating yet another chaotic obstacle on the road to Athens, a photo shoot on the track at her alma mater, the University of Illinois in Champaign.

Dwindling "off-day" between moving on the cheap and dealing with pesky journalists doesn't sound like the ideal way to prepare for the medal you're life, but Feliciano's too busy laughing and revelling in her self-proclaimed "loquaciousness" to voice any complaints. Two flights and lots of high-performance pages aren't part of this champion's make-up. "A lot of people have told me to stay the same Felicia, not to get caught up in this," she says. "I always try to

remember that this can be taken away from me in a moment. The same way I just appeared on the scene, I can disappear."

Naturally in a discipline where most athletes hit their prime in their late 20s (the personal U.S. champion, hurdling icon Gail Devers, is 37), the 23-year-old Feliciano, Ont., native shows the promise of a long and fruitful career. Since bursting onto the international stage at the world championships in Paris last August, Feliciano, a two-time NCAA champion, has dispelled all flab-in-the-pain rumors. In March, she captured the world indoor race in Hungary, and she won four of five races outdoors this season, including last Friday in Zurich in her last time up before Athens.

Rachid Mo'at in the world, she seems to be enjoying the pressure that comes with the view from atop the podium. While U.S. broadcasters and millions of fans will be gawking for Devers—this will be the two-time Olympic sprint champion's fifth Games—Feliciano is determined to deny her childhood idol a storybook ending. "When I line up in the blocks, my mind is in knowing

that all these women want to dethrone me, knowing that I took everything from them last year that I probably had no right taking because no one knew of me," she says. "They'll be back to swing themselves, so I can't think that the magic that was in Paris and Budapest will all of a sudden appear in Athens. I have to work for this, just like I did last year."

That sort of toughness could give Canada's fans a rare opportunity to celebrate at the main Olympic stadium in Marousi, site of the track-and-field events. Following a disappointing Sydney Games in 2000, and an embarrassing no-medal performance at the hosts of the 2004 World Track and Field Championships in Edmonton, Athletics Canada has boosted the Canadian Olympic Committee's tough new selection criteria. In what is being termed a "rebuilding Games," there will be just 26 Canadian track athletes competing in Athens. Alex Gaudes, the team's

head coach, rates Feliciano and high-jumper Mark Boswell as medal favorites, with the men's 4 x 100 m relay team having an "outside shot." Others, like 800 m runner Denise Carruthers, 1500 m runner Malinda Elmore, sprinter Nicolas Macmillan, and 5000 m specialist Emilie Mondor, could make their first. Jeff Atkins and Chantal Petitjeu, both past Paralympic medalists, could also add medalists from "demonstration" wheelchair events. "Our team will be smaller, but more experienced and focused," says Gaudes. "Our goal is to have 70 to 80 per cent of them finish in the top 12."

Feliciano, who didn't realize most of her best in Sydney, realizes she will be carrying Canada's hopes in Athens, and is staying all the right things about race expectations not being a burden. "Some people never win medals in their lives—some people never make the Olympic team," she says. "I know

Feliciano's motivation is knowing that all these women want to dethrone me"

that I have only so many more chances to win Olympic gold. It would be nice to get it out of the way now, but that's not the focus." But her intense preparation—a final training camp in Italy, late arrival in Athens, a recent decision to cancel plans to have her mother come cheer her on—bills any "just happy to be here" rhetoric.

She's candid about her love-hate relationship with her sport. When Pellicci first started rowing back in high school, she loathed the lurches, and instead her coach's attempts to divert her from spinning. Compact and powerful—just 5 feet 4, but with bulging thighs and improbably tiny forearms—she's no slouch the bummer, rather than vault them, always flitting with disaster. "Even now, I'm still intimidated. I line up and I think, how am I going to get through this? How am I going to do this?" she says. "Human instinct is to bail out, to stop because you are going to crash and burn, but it's the power of the mind that forces you to keep going. And the whole risk aspect is what attracts me to it."

That mental toughness, proven over the last year, shows about to be tested like never before. On the night of the Olympic final, Aug. 24, Pellicci, who missed pre-bill after her 2A double scull championship win, will be rowing for herself, her country and her economic future. There are already endorsement deals with Nike and Chevrolet, with other corporate beneficiaries waiting in the wings.

Standing in the mud in Champlain, come from the agricultural school living in the background, Pellicci breaks into a wide smile as she measures the final. "You're close to your destiny," she says. "That night could change everything, even her future transportation." "If I win, I can get a nice new car," she says. "If I lose, I might have to diverge to a used one."

FIVE-RING FACTS

A medal at the world best the 15,000-seat arena in Athens was subjected to wind-tunnel tests. In the University of Western Ontario, Canadian teams in stroke work on carbon fiber up to 100 on the inside hull. It will take weeks up to 100 km/h.

ROWING

BY KEN MACQUEEN

IT'S A MUGGY summer morning in London, Ont. Rain threatens, the wind has picked up, and a flotilla of sailboats has added its wake to the chop on Fanshawe Lake, summer home of Canada's national women's rowing team. Veteran coach Al Morrow couldn't be happier. "Work the talent here, this could be Athens conditions," he bellows from his coach's boat to the eight

women powering on the lake under the guidance of coxswain Sarah Page of Toronto. Instantly, the pace of their rowing then has kicked up a notch. Morrow cracks the thwart of his tiny outboard wide open but still he falls behind as the women's boat slices across the lake. "Push, they're going for it," he says, happy about that, too. "I can't keep up to it."

Whether the women's eight has enough horsepower to leave an Olympic competition in its wake is another matter. Several of the seven boats Canada has qualified for Athens are solid medal contenders. The men's eight and four—both reigning world champions—are considered the boats to beat in their classes, though the wild wind and waves of the Athens course will have much to say on that score. The women ascending a strong pace, a strong double and six eight that Morrow concedes is a "middle power."

Two of the best rowers were plucked from the eight in May to build a heavyweight pair: Buffy Williams, 27, of Catherineville, Ont., bested a six-year-old Olympic champion, and a compatriot to Darcy Macquardt, 23, of Richmond, B.C., the top-ranked rower on the west coast side. Williams was part of the women's eight that won bronze at the 2000 Summer Games in Sydney. "As a crew, we were an emotional basket case," she says, recalling the stress of the only rowing medal performance at the Sydney Games. She took a year off, rowing only half an hour near to get herself through this again. She came back. "I realized how much I missed it," she says. "The competitive outlet, the day in day out training."

Even the nerves before a big race. The two women worked quickly to build a bond. It's Macquardt's role to call the tactics, and they've developed a series of "tactics moves" the one can call out to adjust and race strategy or refine technique. Words like "leg" or "shoulder"

or "knees" will stress the push of the legs, the finish of a stroke or straighten the path of their oars through the water.

The women's lightweight double of Fiona Milne, 32, of Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ont., and Mary Jones, 30, of Huron, Ont., was also selected in May. Remarkably, after just a month together, they pulled off an upset win in June at the final World Cup race in Lucerne, Switzerland, against some of the toughest competition they'll face in Athens.

Jones and Milne were the two best boat rowers in their lightweight class to emerge from long months of training and competition. The training can be a brutal experience, countless hours spent pounding down lacrosse footpaths, purging mud and pulling on machines—rowing machines that record every watt of energy burned. It's on the water, though, when the sport finally yields its rewards. It's in the acceleration after every stroke, and in the sound of the water running under the boat, says Jones. Her partner agrees. "I really love it, the feel of the boat," says Milne. "It's very technical and it's really hard to get it right. We're always striving for that perfect stroke."

It's the job of their coach, Lynne Bessenthal, to turn two strong individual athletes into a team. That's not much time. "A lot of the doubles that we're moving against have been together for two years at least," says Bessenthal, firing her first

Olympic as coach after winning bronzes at two consecutive Games as a rower. The World Cup race was "a pleasant surprise," she says. She's more heartened by the team's potential to up their game by Athens. The sport is now advanced from the canals to the open water, graphing both the strokes per minute and the resulting boat speed. "There are still a lot of areas where they can improve," Bessenthal says.

The Canadian rowing program has gone

Macquardt (left) and Williams weather leaves them in the hands of the oars.



WRESTLING

BY KEN MACQUEEN

through a major rebuild after winning just one medal in Sydney. Brian Richardson, a former medal-producing national men's rowing coach in his native Australia, was brought back as head Canadian rowing coach. He'd been the Canadian head coach during the 1996 Summer Games in Atlanta, when the team won six medals. Veteran coach Mike Spracklen was lured back to Canada in 2001 to head the men's heavy-weight program, after years as a national team coach in both the U.S. and his home country of England. His Canadian team's eight won gold in Barcelona in 1992 and he guided rowing legend Willem Louwman to medals in both the 1992 and the 1996 Olympics. Rowers say the coaching mix change has boosted morale and confidence and returned Canada to a rowing power.

"The year after Mike Spracklen arrived we really started seeing results," says Kevin Light, a member of the men's eight, which has won two consecutive world championships. Though there have been personnel changes since then, Spracklen's noticeably tough training has the team feeling confident. "The people with you are as good or better than you are," Light says. "It's exciting to put all the power in one boat."

The greatest variable for all rowing teams is the wind and weather on the course itself. During an Olympic trial two years, the water was so rough that several boats were swamped. "We're on the hunch of the gods and can't do anything about it," says Spracklen with a shrug. "It's not satisfying to say because you've had a stroke of luck." Of course, the notoriously competitive coach adds after a pause, "It's more satisfying to lose."

FIVE-RING FACTS

- When the shot put competition began in Athens, west of Athens, it was the first time that the original home of the Games has hosted women's athletics. In fact, women were not even allowed to watch the ancient Games.
- Forty-four per cent of athletes at these Games are women. On Canada's team, 124 of 265 competitors are women.



"CAN WE SIT DOWN," Darrin Ippolito quietly asks during an outdoor Olympic send-off in Vancouver. He moves gingerly out of the sun and settles on a concrete slab. Perhaps he's suffering the lingering effect of injuries that have plagued the 30-year-old wrestler in the aftermath of his victory at the 2000 Summer Games, or maybe it's the effect of intensified training as his date on the

mat of Athens approaches. He doesn't say.

He still looks as if a loving sculptor chiseled and buffed him from a block of cellulite, but the years of combat take a toll. The injuries, especially a herniated disc that required neck surgery and the insertion of a metal plate last year, were "quite crippling." His worries about his achilles tendon and training. "Sometimes I wonder if we have enough time," he says. "Sometimes I wonder if we should push the Olympics to May of next year."

Such frank talk had sponsors cringing. His Olympic bid was this spring, was for the first time. It looked last year, when there seemed no hope of him qualifying for

Athens, that Ippolito's career was finished. He'd already given Canada its greatest moment at the Games in Sydney. It was not just his gold medal performance, which lingers in Canadian minds.

It was done here. I would win at the Olympics. Darrin Ippolito says. I wouldn't go!

It was the love and gratitude and unbridled joy of that victory. He taught Canadians a lesson that day, the way he isn't, wordlessly, to lay the flag of his adopted country, the way his incontinent smile shone through a curtain of tears. Canadians, so complacent and underestimating, would literally have had to be carved from stone not to appreciate what he showed at that day. He wrestled in Victoria for the Commonwealth Games in 1994, just a decade ago, a 20-year-old freestyle wrestler, one of the most brightest countries on Earth. Six years later he was studying criminology at Simon Fraser University, he was a Canadian citizen, and a gold medalist—something for native-born

Canadians to ponder as they bask about the country's sunny state of amateur sport.

There is more enough to stop after one medal. There are injuries to consider. He's 30. He's 30.

Jay & Billie in the morning.

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a 26-year-old whose personal best leap is 2.35 m, sharing his skills with the next generation. But the sponsors are more than an hour late, practice is shower over, and the kids are heading home. Sitting on the track his extra-long legs stretched out in front of him, Boswell is laughing and joking, not the least bit bothered that a big chunk of a precious pre-Olympic day is blown.

In Sydney, Boswell finished sixth in a wet, chilly final, but his good natured showmanism—frustrated poses, cheering his competitors, grinning all the while—won fans' hearts. He's had other success: On his right hand there's some bling-bling commemorating his dual NCAA (indoor and outdoor) titles in 2000, though he's proud of those medals making the academic honors roll at the University of Texas that same year. He's won a Commonwealth gold and two world championship medals—silver in 1999 and an extraordinary bronze last year, jumping 2.32 m after shattering the heights in his take-off foot during qualifying.

This year has been difficult. Still, jumping he has barely wavered, choosing to save himself for Athens. His season's best is 2.27 m, far short of the 2.36 or 2.37 he says it will take to reach the Olympic podium. After his coach, Don Pfaff, left Texas to take up with controversial U.S. sprinter Tim Montgomery and Marlon Jones, Boswell (who is now again) returned to Toronto. Five months later, he's been working without a coach, following a training regimen that focuses exclusively on jumping. "It's like a church," explains Boswell. "He doesn't get up and run much—opens all day long. He stretches and plays around a little, but when he starts to be there, he's 100 per cent."

The sprinters finally struggle in and Boswell runs on the track. What a situation he has! 10 people who know next to nothing about high jumping talking to experts. He's energetic and inspired, talking about his fantastic early upbringing in Jamaica, and the mother's determination to lead a better life for her children in Canada. Above all, he's confident about Athens. At the end of the session there are cheers and applause. "Bo's a man!" shouts one of the crowd women. Boswell laughs. "Not yet," he says. "August 22nd!"



TRATHLON

BY KEN MACQUEEN

SIMON WHITFIELD rolls off the ferry to Salt Spring Island, B.C., in a Mini Cooper, a car well-matched to his minimalist's soul—an abundance of speed, gas and fan, packed into a deceptively small frame. Many Canadians had their introduction to Whitfield and his three-pronged sport four years ago, during his breathtaking sprint to gold at the Olympic Games in Sydney. He'd finished

his 1,500 m harbor swim as 17th place, fell to 27th during the 40-km cycling leg, and had enough gas in the tank to blast past everyone else during the 10-km run. It was one of the few Canadian victories in Sydney, the first since a historic triathlon as an Olympic event.

Much has changed in four years, agrees Whitfield as he settles onto the shaded porch of a friend's home on Salt Spring, not far from a seven-acre spread where he and his fiancée have got Olympic plans for a home and organic garden. Triathlon has now become, and he has gained a heap of attention and heavy expectation. His gold in 2000 was so unexpected—though not by Whitfield, who'd mastered it many times, right down to the sprint finish—that only a few Canadian journalists even attended the race. They won't remember it in Athens. The sport has too many variables to crown runaway favorites, but Whitfield and Lance Watson, his Victoria-based coach, figure he's among the best five people who could take the event on any given day.

Canada is sending two men and three women to the Athens triathlon. Top-ranked Jill Sterge, 30, of Penikese, B.C., and Carol Montgomery, 37, of North Vancouver, whose medal hopes in Sydney ended with a crash during the cycling leg of the race, and Samantha McGee of Montreal have qualified. Sterge finished fourth last fall in a tri event at the Athens course. "I have always done well in the heat and I am glad that it is an ocean-water swim with no wetsuits," she says. "That definitely favors the stronger swimmers."

For Whitfield, 29, Salt Spring, with its lakes and winding rural roads, is both a refuge and a hard-core training site. Competitors may arrive in Athens as fit as he is, but he vows none will be better prepared. "It's the old fence-really gets your head, gets you anxious to the details. I like the

analytical side as it: 'What do we have to do, how are we going to get there?' No one has higher expectations than Whitfield himself," says Watson. "He's got a real strong belief in himself," the coach adds. "He was pressure to motivate him. He doesn't fold."

Triathlon is not the pure individual effort it seems. Several teams are expected to use a three-member team strategy on a split-off line with a legman shot at victory and two triathletes to help make it happen. The outrigger's job range from setting the pace to cutting the wind to save a team leader's energy for the finale. "Unfortunately, in our sport, the team approach is actually quite effective," says Watson. "We know that it can probably double Simon's chances of winning a gold." That approach won't happen, he says. "Tough Canadian Olympic Committee selection criteria meant only two men qualified, and Canadians were picked on the strength of individual performances, not as the team concept. Even with a full complement, Sterge says, that selection process "makes it tough to tell the team member who will be the winner."

Unlike in Sydney, though, Whitfield will at least have a second Canadian in his race: his Victoria-based training partner Brent McMahon, 23. McMahon, also coached by Watson, won enough Olympic and Canadian qualifying points this spring by making out his credit card to travel to meet around the globe. Neither Whitfield nor Watson expect McMahon to sacrifice his own shot at glory. "It's not right for triathlon Canada, for me, or anybody to say, 'Okay, now you have to race for Simon,'" says Watson.

McMahon is determined to race a professional, "whether that's a gold or a bronze or 15th." Still, he concedes, "my discipline may not be to be Simon's workhorse, or to motivate him and stuff," he says, "but I can do something to help him, I'm going to do it." Call it a Canadian compromise, or a most unrepresenting sport.

Whitfield "was certain to make it," he coach says. "He doesn't fold."

toronto after 5



In this "city of neighbourhoods" you'll encounter a wealth of entertaining ideas to explore after the business day is done.

the entertainment district

The area south of Queen Street West to Queen's Quay along the lakeshore has been dubbed Toronto's Entertainment District. Here, you'll find a lively concentration of theatres, restaurants, nightclubs, retail shops, and visitor attractions including the Air Canada Centre and SkyDome. And if the mood strikes, you can even hit a bucket of balls at Concord CityPlace Golf Driving Range in the shadow of the CN Tower. Open your mind. Concord CityPlace Golf offers tips by CPGA-qualified pros and high-tech support with the latest video-instructional aids.



Further north, King St West is home to two of the city's premier live theatres: the elegant *Royal Alexandra*, where the hit musical *Mamma Mia!* is on until Sept. 25, and the Princess of Wales where you can take in the production of *Matilda*. Across the street, Roy Thomson Hall, which has recently rejuvenated its acoustics, is home to the Toronto Symphony Orchestra and a wide stage of visiting musical performers.



See Mattia Neri at the Royal Alexandra Theatre (above) until Sept. 26. Take in a jazz performance at one of many clubs and concert venues around town (left). Or, have up your golf game at Concord CityPlace Golf Driving Range (below).



Along the Richmond and Adelaide street strips you can party the night away at any number of danceclubs or dine at one of many fine restaurants. Toronto also enjoys a lively jazz scene and several festivals are held throughout the year. At either end of the Top of the Bloor Metrolink Station or the Distillery District are just three great spots to go hear top live jazz performers. Visit www.torontojazzfest.com or tune in to JAZZ FM91 for the latest updates.

bloor-yorkville

Once a tiny village along Toronto's northern fringe, Yorkville is now the chicest destination in the heart of the city. This row of streets and laneways just north of Bloor between Yonge and Avenue Road is lined with charming Victorian houses, restored and converted into designer boutiques, galleries, antique shops, upscale restaurants and outdoor cafés.



Bloor Street West at the southern edge of Yorkville is Toronto's premiere shopping street. Dubbed the "Mink Mile", it is home to many high-end designers such as Chanel, Tiffany, Giorgio, and Hermes. Homegrown designers include Roast (casual Canadiana), Harry Rosen (menswear), Holt Renfrew (lifestyle), Williams Ashley (bed, chair and crystal) and Birks (jewellery). Yorkville is the unofficial party headquarters of the *Toronto International Film Festival*. Every September, Hollywood's biggest names descend upon Toronto for this 10-day glitzy fest and the neighbourhood's upscale restaurants and bars provide the perfect setting for stargazing.

global taste tour



Toronto's rich multicultural flavour is best discovered through "ethnic" restaurants at distinctive neighbourhoods. Greektown on the Danforth is located moments east of Bloor/Yorkville across the Don Valley that branches the city, and the street is hailed for many Greek restaurants and bistros serving authentic fare. On warm evenings the sidewalk patios are filled with diners while the bar reverberates with music, laughter and shouts of "Opa!"

Little Italy on College Street west of Bathurst is lined with trattorias and cafés. The sandwiches and pizzas are popular on summer nights as locals and visitors gather to sip espresso, eat gelato (Italian ice cream) or just to watch the passing parade.

For more information on neighbourhood fine dining and cultural cuisine in Toronto, visit www.torontofarmlife.com



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BASEBALL

BY KEN MACQUEEN

IT'S STARTING TO sink into the sun-drenched seabeds south of the border that there'll be no American baseball team at these Olympic Games. Few noticed last November when the U.S. collection of college hotshots and rust-belt minor-leaguers was knocked out of the qualifying tournament by Mexico.

"Sorry, Buckle," lamented Ken C. Judd, columnist for the *Seattle Times*. "Unless you can get Canadian TV, you're not likely to see much of America's national pastime beamed from Athens."

That's right, Buckle Canada—land of the puck—emerged from that tournament in Panama to qualify for the first time since ball became an Olympic medal event in 1992.

It won't be much of a seventh inning stretch for Americans to adopt Team Canada, a squad that draws heavily from U.S. college and minor-pro teams. Greg Hamilton, Baseball Canada's director of national teams, and manager Ernie Whitt are counting on stalwarts like Stubby Clapp, 31, who got Canada this far. Adding depth are two former Toronto Blue Jays, outfielder



The new uniform: Gold diamonds suit Kottz and the other Canadian players

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Rick Downey, 39, and pitcher Paul Spoitnik, 33. The roster flourished until last week. Players on major-league rosters (such as slugger Justin Morneau in Minnesota) were lost, while others (Spokane pitcher Sean Hill) were added after being sent to the minors.

The Cubans, for whom baseball is a national passion, are favorites for gold. Japan is another threat. With the U.S. out of the picture, Canada has a shot at its first baseball medal, and a few Americans will likely swoop on CBC or TSN to cheer their overdog team. "It might be painful," warns columnist Judd. "But not nearly as much as an hour and a half of righteous geometry."

THE CANADIAN WOMEN'S softball team finished dead last among eight teams at the 2000 Summer Olympics in Sydney. No one expects a repeat of that dismal performance in Athens. The team began rebuilding after Australia, says head coach Mike Kenney, who also coaches the Simon Fraser University club. Kenney designed his 15-woman team around key rule changes in Athens, the pitching mound is backed up to 43 feet from 45, and the outfield fences are pushed back to 220 feet from 200. "With a 43-foot pitching distance, it's more of a hitter's game," says Kenney. "And with 220-foot fences, speed comes into play because you have to increase hits, the hustle doubles and triples. We've got a pretty quick team."

Captain and second base Kevyn Oldenries of Richmond, B.C., welcomes the expanded outfield. "We're not necessarily a home run hitting team, so that will help us without shoes into the gap." Pitcher Kelli Hoke of North Vancouver says all four team pitchers are used to the 43-foot mound from college ball. "In fact," she adds, "if it was still at 40 feet, it would have been a problem."

The Canadians are light on Olympic experience, but Kenney has seasoned them with international play, traveling frequently to far teams in the U.S., Puerto Rico, the Dominican Republic, New Zealand and Australia. The defending champion Americans are favored in Athens, with Japan a tough second. But Canada, Kenney adds, is a "dogfight" with Australia, China and Chinese Taipei for the lone podium gold slot. Kim Surman, a catcher from St. Boniface, Que., says the team is experienced enough not to let their loss be the added pressure of Athens. "The Olympics is big, it's huge," she says. "But for an athlete, it has to be just another ball season on ice."



BY JAMES DEACON



CYCLING

Hydrex Hospital of Victoria was already a contender for the Olympic mountain bike podium before Bridget's Big Mountain, the 2003 world champion, dropped out because of a doping violation. But in the runner-up to Mountain last year, Hospital, 23, is now listed among the favorites for gold. The agiles Alton Spoor of Victoria, meanwhile, is booked at the Games for a fourth time, taking another shot at improving on the silver medal she won in 1996. Spoor, 33, qualified for Athens on the strength of a second-place finish at the 2003 world championships and four top-10 finishes in World Cup races this season.

1 The suspension of the reigning world champion will boost Hospital's chances

SAILING

Richard Clarke retired from Olympic competition four years ago. The Finn class sailor had gone to the Sydney regatta in 2000 as one of the favorites for gold, but finished a disappointing 17th instead. He spent a few years racing bigger boats around the world, but eventually succumbed to his Olympic addiction. Last February, the 35-year-old from Toronto entered the last qualifying regatta and, without much preparation, claimed an Athens berth. So now he's a four-time Olympian, just like teammate Ross Macdonald of Vancouver, who will sail in the Star class with Mike White, 36, of Mississauga. One: The 19-year-old Macdonald won a bronze medal in Barcelona in 1992.

2 Taking one more shot at Finn-class gold lured Toronto's Clarke out of retirement

WRESTLING

After more than a decade of competing in virtual anonymity during its winning era world championships, Charlotte Northrup is finally ready for her Olympic debut. The 33-year-old freestyle wrestler from tiny Yukonville, Ontario, is, in effect, the first time women's wrestling in the Games. "For once, everyone's going to be watching," she says. Slowed by injury for two seasons, Northrup is healthy again and a strong contender for gold. But she tries to keep that winning prospect in perspective. "In wrestling," she says, "you need to keep a level head."

3 Northrup will fight for gold in the Olympics' first-ever women's wrestling tournament

CANOE-KAYAK

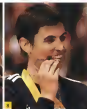
There was no joy in Caroline Branch's K-1 500 silver medal in 2000. The Lac Beauport, Que., kayaker had dominated the event for years and was heartbroken by the loss in Australia. But after winning the last World Cup race of this season, it's clear she's back in gold-medal form. "My goal this season was to be as strong as I've ever been in my career," says Branch, 35, who's headed to her fifth Olympics, "and I think I'm very close to that now." She and Mylaine Barri, 25, also from Lac Beauport, will be medal favorites in the K-2 500 event. Thirty-seven-year-old Edmontonian David Ford, meanwhile, also has an outside shot at a medal—he has one podium finish in K-1 whitewater slalom this season.

4 At her fifth Games, Branch hopes to finally claim the gold that has long eluded her

FENCING

She competes in a mask and in a sport that doesn't get any play in the Canadian media. Yet fencer Shamane Mackay has four individual World Cup victories in épée, including one at a recent Games tune-up event in Puerto Rico in June. As a result, she's fencing confident heading to Athens. "I'm injury free for the first time all season, and I feel really great," she says. The oft-injured 29-year-old from Brooks, Alta., moved to Paris three years ago to get the caliber of training and competition she needed to advance. The selection and the hard work have paid off—she's now ranked in the top five in épée world-wide, and is a serious medal hopeful for Canada.

5 Mackay's coming off an encouraging victory at the final World Cup event before the Games



13 INTERNATIONAL STARS YOU SHOULD KNOW

KENENISA BEKELE

ATHLETICS—ETHIOPIA

Bekele will try to become the first man to win both the 5,000-m and 10,000-m races at the same Olympics since fellow Ethiopian Meskerem Yifter did it in 1980. He has the credentials in a nine-day stretch in May. Bekele, 22, broke countryman Haile Gebrselassie's world records in both events. Trouble is, in the energy-sapping Athens heat, the two events are only five days apart.

HESTRIE CLOETE

HIGH JUMP—SOUTH AFRICA

The 23-year-old is looking to avenge a disappointing silver medal in 2000—the matched Yelena Yelina's big jump in Sydney, but (and because the Russian had fewer miles). Cloete has once captured the world high jump championship and won earned the female world title for 2003, going unbeaten in the IAAF Golden League meets.

PYRROS DIMAS

WEIGHTLIFTING—GREECE

Knowing the weight of the host nation's six previous, the 33-year-old, 85-kg classlifter is a prize for an unprecedented fourth gold medal. He's won four times before in Olympic history to have stolen three. After Dimas won in Barcelona in 1992, 60,000 fans gathered at Panathinaiko Stadium in Athens to celebrate, while another 38,000 stood outside to cheer their support.

DAIANE DO SANTOS

Gymnastics—Brazil

She's the world champion in the floor exercise and has a mancoever named after her, but the "Black Pearl" isn't done yet. Standing only four feet nine and weighing less than 100 lb., dos Santos, 21, is trying to become the first Brazilian woman to win an individual gold and the first black woman to win an individual gymnastics gold.

MAURICE GREENE

ATHLETICS—USA

Greene is gunning to be the first repeat champion in the 100 m since fellow American Carl Lewis pulled off the feat in 1984 and 1988. Fully recovered from a broken leg suffered in a motorcycle accident two years ago, the 30-year-old Californian ran a wind-aided 9.79-second 100 at the U.S. Open in May. And the big catch: won't let anyone forget about it.

LAUREN JACKSON

BASKETBALL—AUSTRALIA

She created a stir by posing nude for a photography magazine, but last year's WNBA player of the year is best known for her game. The 23-year-old Seattle Storm forward, the WNBA's leading scorer this season with an average of 20.4 points per game, hopes to help the Aussie-silver medalists in 2008—against the favored Americans.

MARIO KINDELAN

BOXING—CUBA

Kindekan withdrew from the volleyball team to the boxing ring when he was 14 because, as he put it, "even Cuban women like to box." Turned out it was a smart move. The defending lightweight Olympic champ is favored to win a second gold in Athens—the first summer of a career that includes three world championship titles (1999, 2001, 2003).

TATYANA LEBEDEVA

TRIPLE JUMP—RUSSIA

The 28-year-old known for changing her hair color named all the attention to her leaping abilities at the world indoor championships in Budapest in March, breaking both the triple jump and long jump indoor world records. As a result, Lebedeva has become a heavy favorite to win both events outdoors in Athens.

MAY & WALSH

WEST VOLLEYBALL—USA

Miley May and Kerri Walsh (previously, the reigning world champions, had won 15 consecutive tournaments and 30 straight matches going into this spring. But May suffered an abdominal strain that has taken more time to heal than expected. In the four tournaments since she returned to action, they've won only once. That said, they're the gold-medal favorites if they're healthy.

VALERIE NICOLAS

HANDBALL—FRANCE

In the most understated sport of the Summer Games, the French goalkeeper is a major star. The 29-year-old did everything but stand on her head at the 2003 World Championships, helping France win while making her the MVP. France expects nothing less when the national team takes a shot at its first handball gold at the Olympics.

MICHAEL PHELPS

SWIMMING—USA

The 19-year-old from Baltimore has caught on as the record of his dad Mark Phelps, who won seven gold medals at the 1972 Games in Munich. Phelps holds world records in the 200 m fly, 200 m and 400 m individual medleys, but he'll have trouble beating the Australian "Shaggydog," defending champion Ian Thorpe and his son 17 feet, in the 200 m freestyle.

JAN-OVE WALDNER

TABLE TENNIS—SWEDEN

The 38-year-old Swede is widely regarded as the greatest player to ever pick up a paddle, earning the nickname "Moon of table tennis" for his versatility. Yet he's also known as a playboy and a hoarse brawler away from the tables. This will likely be his final Games—the won a gold medal in Barcelona and silver in Sydney in men's singles.

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Digital cameras are fueling a renewed thrill in taking and sharing photographs

Seven out of 10 cameras sold in Canada in the past year were digital point-and-shoot models, according to a 2004 survey by NPD Hardlines Canada, a market research firm that advises consumer electronics companies on consumer purchase behaviour. In recent months, the ratio has actually crept closer to eight out of 10.

"The trend is clear," says Gary Goss, vice-president and general manager with NPD in Toronto. "Digital photography is really taking over market sales."

One reason is the attractive price of camera models that offer two or three megapixels of image resolution — now considered quite adequate for the average photographer who wants good-quality 4x6 prints. In the first three months of this year, the average price of digital cameras dropped 25 per cent compared to prices during the same period a year earlier, NPD figures show.

While price is a big factor, another reason consumers are going decidedly digital this year is that the cameras have simply gotten easier to use.

Actual size of DSC-W1



Quick Dad – Point, Shoot, Run!

New Cyber-shot DSC-W1 digital camera's large 2.5" LCD is 2.8x larger than most conventional screens meaning the bear may be closer than it appears.

- 5-Megapixel sensor for amazing high-resolution images
- Carl Zeiss Vario-Tessar lens with 3x Optical Zoom and its Digital Zoom
- Attractive, compact design with comfortable hand grip
- Increase the optical zoom to 7.6x using an optional Conversion Lens adapter and Telephoto Conversion Lens
- RAM battery and charger supplied provides up to 340 shots
- Direct print: PictBridge™ compatible



Ready to shoot in 1/6 seconds

Shoot it all with Sony's new Cyber-shot DSC-W1 digital camera. Its large 2.5" colour LCD screen gives you plenty of viewing room for recording and playing back every scene inside you explore. Each image looks in high-resolution just with W1's 5-megapixel sensor and Carl Zeiss™ Vario-Tessar lens. Auto and manual features provide the flexibility you need to experiment with your unique photographic style. So whether it's the Rocky Mountains, Peggy's Cove or Montreal, Sony's Cyber-shot DSC-W1 goes the distance anywhere you travel.

For Sony digital imaging solutions, visit... www.sonystyle.ca for product info or www.sonystyle.ca/finder for accessory info.



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Proud  Sponsor

"You no longer have to be a computer geek or an early adopter to get into digital photography at any level," says Neil Stephenson, manager of Canon's technical marketing group for consumer imaging.

The demands of professional photographers have helped drive the market towards the mainstream, says Stephenson. Canon worked closely with photographers in organizations like Associated Press and Canadian Press to guide product development, resulting in innovations like direct-to-printer connections that can take the PC out of the equation.

"The upshot is that now digital cameras are very easy to use," says Stephenson. "Photographers don't need to spend more time on computers than they have to."

TIPS FOR GREAT CLICKS

To get the most out of your digital camera, look for qualities beyond just resolution

In the beginning, there were megapixels, and that's what people talked about when shopping for digital cameras.

Five years later the average digital camera on the market is in the three-to-four-megapixel range—high enough resolution to make good 16x or 8x16 prints. Attention is now shifting to other considerations, such as how quickly the camera can be turned on and the function of the shutter lag— that annoying delay between your clicking the shutter button and the camera info-kencing and capturing the image.

"While the number of megapixels used to be the sell and real-life of camera selection, today a consumer should ask questions about things like the quality of the light metering system, the focus system and the lens," says Mary Morley, national sales manager with Nikon Canada.

Plus, there is an ever-increasing number of features—such as red-eye control, video capability, and image e-mailing—that manufacturers are using to distinguish their cameras.

Good and what's more, a helpful starting point is www.sony.com—a photography review website with an interactive buying guide to find cameras with the features you want.

Before you purchase, check up a camera and take a few pictures—something some purists and amateur photographers encourage.

"It's like a fix, you go into a store and see cameras lined up in glass cases," says Rob Chaffin, general manager of advertising and corporate communications at Sony of Canada Ltd. "At the Sony store, you'll find cameras with an eye on top of the shelf so you can pick one up and hold it in your hand." Rob still can't pretend to give people a fix, but he says the whole system has a marketing edge: "If we're working with the consumer to avoid any false disappointment in the choice they make."



Sony's megapixel DSC-F700 pocket style and powerful features like a slim, compact body with a 1.4" LCD screen for viewing.



The Sony Cyber-shot DSC-H100 has been a hot seller on the retail pop market. At 8 megapixels 600 processor is matched with a power to use 3x with autofocus lens (28x - 280mm).



The new 5 megapixel Sony Cyber-shot DSC-T1 with a 30 optical zoom lens packs the features of a conventional camera into a cool metal body about the size of a pack of cards.



Canon's popular DSC-R1 was digital last year, and the digital Rebel is competitive with more than 50 Canon D1 cameras.

HOT PRODUCTS

Easier than ever to use, new digital cameras offer more for less

"Consumers like digital; it's all about instant gratification," says Greg Morrison, marketing manager for digital cameras and image printing with Kodak Canada.

"What Kodak is doing makes it simple to capture an image and get a picture out of the camera," he says. That's why the company has focused on developing its EasyShare system across its cameras. These EasyShare features allow you to tag favourite images for later printing or e-mailing of the time you capture them. A one-button standard puts the images in the right folders, so there's no fawing over file formats.

Kodak recently introduced the EasyShare DX7300 aimed at the entry-level photographer. It's an unencapsulated camera with a respectable three-megapixel resolution for less than \$200. Kodak's DX line is for the more experienced photographer who needs additional features, priced from around \$400 and up.

HP has also focused on ease-of-use with its Instant Share system, that allows you to select what you plan to do with a photo at the time that you snap it. So when you look at an HP Photosmart \$200 digital camera into your PC or HP printer images are put in the format you need for e-mail or printing.



Try instant: the Canon DP 200 eye-activated printer comes with a battery pack so you can take it on the road.

AFTER-SHOTS

Innovations outside the camera

"The experience makes it read after you press the shutter button," says John Chubb, general manager of advertisement and corporate communications for Sony Canada. "There's no post, and there's no rework."

For some people, this is where the fun begins. From printing your photos at home to creating slides using master effects with photo-studio printing software on your PC.

Others prefer the convenience of simply snapping off a memory stick at a photo kiosk or ordering prints online through a Web site. The software printing the latest in technology allows you to plug in a memory stick or hook up a camera right to a printer — no PC required. Many models have LCD screens to preview and edit photos prior to printing.

From Canada, the DP-2000 is a light-styled wonder that truly brings digital printing into the realm of "instant." It comes with a battery pack so you can use it anywhere.

Another recent innovation is the digital photo album. In May, Nikon announced the Coolpix 4500, a digital image viewer that can store some 10,000 images.

Style matters

It's not Sony, yet into the camera business with the Coloured Image of Canada, it quickly became a style leader with cameras that imitated the aesthetics of its most popular consumer electronic products.

It explains the popularity of the top-line T1 with the camera cover who likes the world profile and big styling that can look into a pocket or a purse. It retails for about \$750.

"The hot products today, where it's all about quality — Carl Zeiss lenses, high megapixels — and are also people looking at so many on an offer there," says John Chubb, general manager of advertisement and corporate communications with Sony Canada.

One of Kodak, the LS line aims to put the "cool" factor in your hand. Its most addresses include the sleek, aluminum-bodied EasyShare LS7300 digital, about the size of a mobile phone, which retails for about \$499.

And the go-to-go 6.4-megapixel of Canon's Elgi series design has made the transition to digital, with the Canon Elgi 5900, a five-megapixel point-and-shoot.



Share Moments. Share Life.™



Proof that engineers dream in colour.



Kodak EasyShare DX7300 zoom digital camera

Want hyper-vivid pictures during waking hours? Try the only digital camera with Kodak colour science power, 6.1 MP and a Schneider-Kreuznach 3x optical zoom lens. All harnessed for amazing colour. Learn more at Kodak.ca

DIGITAL CLICKS

Stops for news, reviews and creative ideas

www.robbiebraith.com

Learn from the pros on this Calgary-based site geared to photographers.

www.dprview.com

Look under the "buying guide" for cameras that have the features you want.

www.megapixel.net

Read the articles for quick tips and camera basics.

www.luminous-landscape.com

Improve your photography skills through the site's tutorials and essays.

www.hp.ca/printville

Get templates and ideas for family-friendly projects on this site hosted by HP.

Just press 

FOLLOW THE LOONIE

Surprise! Canada's stock market is a global star.



AFTER TWO YEARS of weekly conversations with you, I've moved to a different format. This is an agreeable arrangement for me and, I hope, for you. The column is meant to give a Canadian's view of events that drive pieces of investment on Wall Street as well as on Bay Street. Although I'm Canadian, I've been making my living in the U.S. market for 17 years, so it makes sense to leave week-by-week discussions of the people and

companies in the Canadian business community to someone who lives there.

In my experience, one of the most widespread delusions in the financial community is that one can be, on a sustained basis, a stock expert in a foreign market without living and working there. When I was in Waterloo, Ont., managing the U.S. equity component of Canadian pension fund portfolios, I told myself I really and honestly did the American market—until I did manage to achieve satisfactory results. But after I moved to Wall Street, where I was surrounded by people who lived and breathed U.S. stocks, I found out how superficial my knowledge really was.

Whatevers who trade very actively can do a lot of things that the average investor of the major stock markets of the world. Although markets tend to move up and down together, they are not in synchrony as investors in local markets and the movements of capital in and out of those markets. Most importantly, by reading earnings and economic statements from around the world, one can see trends in the global economy, and then look at the impact of those trends on national markets. If technology is hot, for example, everyone knows that Nasdaq will be on the bull. But so will South Korea's KOSPI index, which includes Samsung, the largest consumer electronics stock in the world, and Singapore's exchange, which includes other leading technology manufacturers. When commodities are strong, as they have been for most of the past two

years, the Australian, Canadian and South African markets show global interest.

Extraordinary investment opportunities often come when the loonie are in a funk about their stock market and/or currency. That usually happens when a stock market and/or currency have long been underperformers, and the loonie gets stuck in a "green is never green" on the other side of the fence" attitude, thereby missing the improved relative value of their own market against their neighbors'—and the rest of the world's.

I recall a number of how-did-you-do-it! Canadian winners were calling for Canada to abandon the loonie and beg Americans to let us adopt their dollar. That was the time when the whole world seemed to invest in the green back, the currency of the orange money markets called "The New Economy."

At the time, Canada had a strong economy, flat budget and trade surplus, along with high flyers such as Noranda and JDS Uniphase, but Canadians—presumably Canadian pension fund managers—were

INVESTMENT
opportunities often come when the locals are in a funk about their stock market and currency



Commodity prices—including oil—have been strong for the past two years.

eager to move as much money as possible into the U.S. The pension fund industry pleaded with Ottawa to raise the foreign content limit on pension funds (old RRSPPs) above 30 per cent. Its spokespeople, backed by some think tanks and media, had slick presentations showing how much money was made by investing abroad, particularly south of the border.

Canadians should think three finance minister Paul Martin for standing firm. In fact, the Canadian stock market has been the strongest in the industrial world, delivering average annual returns of 4.56 per cent for the five years since June 30, 1999. Australia was second at 3.36 per cent, and the U.S. was in the middle of the pack at a negative 4.41 per cent, the same as Singapore.

There have to be numbers on which to base our cases, so for an American investor, the annual returns from Canada are around 6.5 per cent, because the loonie rose roughly 30 per cent against the greenback to that

THE MAPLE LEAF RULES

Leading quality stock returns, annualized in local currencies, for five years ending on June 30, 2004



SOURCE: PETER D'AMICO/ALICARD

period. An American who sold out of the U.S. market and moved all her money to Canada would have increased her wealth by about 58 per cent over five years, instead of losing nearly one quarter of her wealth by staying in U.S. stocks. A Canadian who subscribed to all the propaganda about "The New Economy" and moved her wealth into the S&P 500 would have lost almost 30 per cent of her stake.

When people ask for a quick statement of a personal goal in wealth building, I offer "This year and every year I shall increase any share of the total wealth of the world." That means being in a strong currency is almost a prerequisite for meeting the goal, because the distribution of the world's wealth changes in response to changing currency values. Americans are collectively poorer than they were in the year 2000, mostly

because of Nasdaq's collapse and the resultant bear market for equities that triggered a recession, but also because the U.S. dollar has fallen in value against such important currencies as the euro, the pound, the Swiss franc and, of course, the currency of its biggest trading partner.

First question: are you surprised by these statistics, or have they been trumpeted in the Canadian media?

Second question: have the pro-greenback elites publicly reacted?

Third: Australia had an even stronger currency in the past five years in a due to what pulled the loon from her dove.

The world's economic growth, which had for years been fuelled by cheap oil and cheap food, no longer has cheap supplies. The recovery from the U.S. recession

of 2001 has faced the headwind of commodity inflation, most importantly in the price of oil. Canada and Australia are exporters of oil, gas, metals and agricultural products, so they are winners in this new kind of global economy, in which the voracious demands of China, and, to a surprising extent, India, have sent prices of raw materials to unacceptably profitable levels for producers who were struggling to survive during the 1990s.

To understand why the S&P 500 composite has been a global star, look at the weightings of the commodity groups on Wall Street, compared with their weightings in the S&P 500, and gas 14.3 per cent as opposed to 6.9 per cent; base metals 5.9 per cent vs. 0.38 per cent; gold 3.7 per cent vs. 0.17 per cent; paper and forest 1.9 per cent vs. 0.51 per cent. Canada has wealth that's been under the ground for millions of years, plan the forest that came after the last ice Age. The most extreme contrast is Singapore, whose wealth is in the form of disciplined, educated, hard-working people. Canada is reacting to natural resources, and it's outrageous more of the work habits, incentives and discipline of the Singaporeans, then it will be even richer after the measures are gone.

In the meantime, that indebted wealth will keep global investors buying the loonie and Canadian stocks. Kirby

Chicago-based Donald Kirby is Global Portfolio Strategist, S&P Financial Group, dck@climadavis.ca



FRESH PRINCE

He has a new lease on funk and, as a Jehovah's Witness, a burning faith
BY SHANDA DEZIEL

Music

PRINCE IS LOOKING at me like I have a gun in my hand. I've been told at least twice by his people that I can't record our interview, but by force of habit I pulled out my tape recorder as soon as I sat down. Before any words are spoken I realize my mistake, apologize wildly and put it back in my bag. "I just about had a coronary," says Prince, somewhat good-naturedly. "You're going to have to put this bag at the other end of the room."

Despite 26 years in the public eye, the taxpayer, who happens to have flawless skin, is not comfortable talking in front of cameras or on tape. That's why when you see him on TV, he speaks in those hushed tones, giving those answers, acting timid and humble. But

in the comfort of his recording device-free dressing room backstage at Toronto's Air Canada Centre, surrounded by candles, naps and tapenotes, 46-year-old Prince is unaffected and chatty, losing 30-minute interviews run well over an hour. Dejected throat usually lies in waiters, lightweight fringed pants and a long-sleeved, off-white suit—the exact flamboyance known as the artist formerly known as Prince seems surprisingly normal. And fun—telling himself over my Canadian pronunciation of "about" and admitting that he uses it. "Yeah, I like saying that. 'Where's your camera, eh?'"

Strange as it may seem, Prince is now a Jehovah's Witness and attends (at least part of) church in Toronto, with his wife, Manuela Testalina, who's born and raised here. He recorded his latest CD, *Musicology*—a mix of funky guitar jams and sexy, prime heavy ballads—at his home studio built on a leafy street of easements called the Fiddle Path. And most agree the new disc heralds the return of one of the world's greatest hit-makers. He's currently on a massive North American tour that recently touched down in Toronto. "It's a little premature to say this concert is his homecoming," he says backstage, "but maybe a second-homecoming."

The son of an Italian mother and part-African American father feels he fits in north of the border. "This city is so Neapolitan, so full of different groups, but one doesn't overshadow the others," he says. "Everyone has a parade." He often seems to prefer it to the "mainly Anglo-Saxon" community of Minneapolis, where he grew up. "It's clean and nice but has that close-minded mentality," he says of the latter. "There was a certain way we used to dress that shocked everybody," he adds with a demure smile, slowing the heater to recall images of the five-foot-two rocker in sunglasses and women's lingerie. "Grossed, I don't wear outfit like this anymore, but

the musician is calling for a record-industry revolution so artists can own their material

in Toronto it wouldn't be a big deal."

On his latest album, Prince sings of his disappointment with the state of the world and with his country. "What's wrong with the world today? Things just got 2 get better? She's not what the leaders say / Maybe we should vote a letter—but his move to Canada wasn't political. He won't even discuss February 9/11. "No comment; I still live in the U.S." For Prince, there's only one party worth belonging to: "I pledge allegiance to God. And in my stepson view of the world, if everybody did that we'd have a new Renaissance, a golden age. Nothing changes by voting; we need to blow the whole system up."

Searching for another target, he hits on the music industry—where the solution isn't the Almighty, but Prince himself. The changing

"I COULD write songs every day, but you have to ask yourself, 'How many records do you need?' or 'How many relationships?'"

of his music to an increasingly subtle symbol and the writing of slave on his face were all part of Prince's long struggle to get out of his Warner Bros. contract and to own the master recordings of his music. His deal with the giant corporation expired in 1996, but he's still bitter and obsessed. "After my first two records, I made music in my house, without an advance from the label. So how come they think they own that? You can leave it, but you can't buy it illegally."

With *Musicology*, Prince hired Sony to handle the retail distribution of his controversial CD, allowing the company to take a cut of the sales. Prince believes in the way of the future, now that artists can make music cheaply and at home. And he bristles at how the system has gone and singled for so long. "We should check out the History

of Rock 'n' Roll five-disc DVD set," he says. "Watch the first disc and see who started this, how they got into these can't-DNA, took their intellectual property."

Not happy to just take control away from the record labels, Prince is shaking up the entire industry. By including the price of his CD on the cost of his concert tickets, and handing out the duster the door of his arena-sized shows, Prince has sold over a million records (Sony doesn't share in any of these profits). The ingenious plan gave Prince his first Top 10 hit in years and freed him from Sony Music, the company that regulates album sales and reports to the Billboard albums charts. They've now put contracts on the printer. "They don't like that I'm the distributor," says Prince, who's protected by a grandfather clause for the rest of his life. "Their No. 1 album is a lie. Their list is null and void. It's not real; it can be manipulated. The movie *The Matrix* is not that far off."

Prince is not a humble guy. He believes there are plans to keep his album out of the Top 10, that he has the only important tour of the summer—he dismisses Madonna's with a wave of his hand and a toss of his head—and that he should have an outlet for all his creations all the time. "Do you want an adobe?" he asks rhetorically. "How what? I listened to his albums following the love symbol recording of 1992 and up till now—he put out at least 10—know that a second opinion might have helped. 'I guess you have to like yourself,' he comments. "Every thing should be in consideration. I could write songs every day, but you have to ask yourself, 'How many records do you need?' or 'How many relationships do you need?'"

Managing a wave of Prince's big themes these days—many of Madonna's best songs are gorgeous adoptions of his lyrics in Toronto. The 27-year-old beauty, who received York University for an art degree, was a fan first, then an employee at Prince's Paisley Park Studios before marrying the musician in 2001. The couple were baptized Jehovah's Witnesses together—it was Prince's mother's dying wish—and actually rode down to divorce court spending the week. On one song due to his *Love and Sex* performance, he learned that they might even have waited till they were married before having sex. Prince doesn't talk about any of this. Besides the tape recorder rule, he insists reporters don't ask about his personal life or his past. And I shall—one narrowly averted question is enough. ☐



A MODERN INFANT ARMADA

Strange but true—there's a stroller for every situation and terrain

HE PAUSED, hand poised on the doorknob. "Is here," George told, eyes glancing in anticipation, like a hot roller ready to show off his Shelby. Crossing the dark stained door open, he reached in, flipped on the light and revealed his treasure. Lined up end to end in the center of the garage were strollers.

Four of them.

George and his wife, Linda, have two cars, both newer models worth millions of dollars, both parked on the one-lane street in this quiet Vancouver neighborhood.

The garage is exclusively for baby transport.

"Do you have three other children I'm serious?" asked him. His smile masked a slightly arrogant attitude, as though telling me "Just wait. You'll see."

I didn't believe it would. I haven't passed a trash can since 10th grade, but a new child equals one stroller against a simple enough equation. But George explained each stroller has its own function. One is general all-purpose. I pointed out that the all-purpose stroller, by definition, negates the necessity of the other three. He chuckled and continued as though I hadn't spoken.

This second stroller for shopping, stroller and more easily navigable through mall/corridor with more down than 10 percent off sales at Gap Kids. The third is sometimes "off-roading." The fourth and biggest—in which appearing only slightly smaller than a dump truck—is for jogging and rebranding. George stepped back and examined his infant conveyer. "Management," he said with satisfaction, "it's all about stroller management."

My wife, Barbara, and I left our friends home shaking our heads. What happened to them, we wondered.

But we were wondering that less after we stepped on the path to preschool 18 months later. At our first visit our first baby came we are approached by the milk drink. "Would you like a tour of the strollers?" she asks. I am about to let loose with a recycled bark when I notice my wife's mouth is pregnant with revolutionary, head-pointing upward

to rolling high shelves, mouth agape. As far as the eye can see are strollers of different makes, models, colors and uses.

"I guess that would be a good idea," I tell the clerk. And the tour begins. In the next 45 minutes the leads us through the baby, design features, pros and cons of the modern stroller. Collapsible, we are informed, should have two leading devices to ensure the surfaces of the upright stroller. Holy makes sense of the front available. "Baby!" ask her. "Aren't they responsible

strollers don't have an umbrella.

In the end, we find we need more time. "I don't spend this much time deciding on a car," I telling wife in my cell phone. "How will we ever decide which one to buy?"

"Which one?" she asks.

The issue is a stroller for long-term, who offer to buy an umbrella, though not the armada our friends have recommended. We pick out a high-end, multi-purpose full-on coupe (having remembered they make Persim as well as Ford) in earth tones that suggest pattern and precision the forest or the urban jungle. As a hedge, we buy the matching infant car seat—remembering it is a second, third or fourth stroller would be a waste.

Finally, the day arrives when I can proudly put baby Anthony into this magnificent chariot. I've been waiting three months for this first stroll, my wife having assured me that, yes, the neighborhood would think a world had landed the car in a permanent snow dome.

And it's okay. The ride begins well, though a passerby points out the car seat on a bedwetter. Anthony is supposed to face me. Strollers prove to be a manageable, though not an answer to what I had imagined. I eye another jockey whose stroller has a lid covering the handle compartment—containing the keys and garage door opener are lying hopelessly exposed. The all-inclusiveness of our model suddenly seems cumbersome as I struggle my way down some stairs. The unfettered wheel-planked hydraulic cranes such vibrations my newborn daughter is shaken into a prolonged hiccuping fit.

I finally return to the house, hawking off baby and heading for the phone. "Where are you going?" my wife asks. "To call George," I reply in a whisper. "I need to see if he can help me get a footstool."

David Russell is a Vancouver writer who now owns three children. To contact: davidrussell@shaw.ca



LEGAL NOTICE FOR CANADIAN PROPERTY OWNERS

If You are the Current or Former Owner of Property in which Entran II Hose was or is used for Radiant Heating or Snowmelting

You could get a payment from a class action settlement.

There is a proposed Settlement of two class action lawsuits, *Kellogg v. The Goodyear Tire & Rubber Company et al* and *Gilbert v. The Goodyear Tire & Rubber Company*. The first lawsuit is pending in the Ontario Superior Court of Justice. The second lawsuit is pending in the United States District Court for the District of New Jersey. The lawsuits concern Entran II hose used in Canada and the United States. (The lawsuit does not include Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Maine, Vermont, Connecticut and Rhode Island.) Entran II was manufactured and sold by The Goodyear Tire & Rubber Company and Goodyear Canada Inc. ("Defendants").

What is the Litigation About?

Plaintiffs allege that the Defendants manufactured defective Entran II hose. The product was used in radiant heating and snowmelting systems. They claim the hose is prone to leaking when exposed under normal conditions. Entran II hose was also known as *Flexion*, *Hyvance*, *Entran II Ultra*, *Entran II Plus*, *Entran 2*, *Entran 2 Pro*, and *Entran 2 Pro*. Defendants deny all claims of wrongdoing made by Plaintiffs. Defendants believe that if properly maintained Entran II hoses do not cause a problem.

Who is involved?

You may be a member of the Settlement Class if you are the current or former owner of property in which the Entran II hose has been installed. The property must be in Canada or the United States, as territories and possessions. If you own or owned property in Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Maine, Vermont, Connecticut or Rhode Island, in which Entran II hose is or is installed, you are not part of this lawsuit. If you or your home is covered by this Settlement you should check the Settlement Web site or call the toll free number below.

What are the Settlement Terms?

The Settlement Fund will be between \$496 million and \$276 million (11.8%). Defendants will pay this amount over a five (5) year period. Depending on the number of claims, Class Counsel estimate some Class Members may receive as much as 40% of the cost of reformation. Information on the specific relief Class Members can expect is detailed in a document called the Plan of Allocation and Distribution. Class Counsel developed the Plan with the assistance of the Special Master, appointed by the Court, and other interested parties. The Plan is available on the Settlement Web site or by calling the number below.

Class Counsel will petition the Court for reasonable attorneys' fees, as an amount not to exceed \$55.8 million or 30% of the Settlement Fund, and expenses payable from the Settlement Fund.

What Are My Legal Rights?

If you wish to remain a member of the Settlement Class, you do not have to do anything. But to show in the Settlement Form you must file a claim in accordance below. If the Court approve the proposed Settlement, you will receive the benefits of the proposed Settlement. You will also be bound by all the court's orders. This means you will drop any claims you may have against the Defendants that are covered by the Settlement.

If you wish to file a claim, you must complete a Claim Form. You can get a Claim Form by contacting the Class Administrator in writing, at the address given below, or by calling the toll-free number. It is also available on the Settlement Web site. Claim Forms must be signed and postmarked no later than October 19, 2009.

If you do not wish to be a member of the Settlement Class, you must sign a Request for Exclusion letter as outlined in the Settlement Agreement and Notice. Your request must be postmarked on or before May 7, 2004.

When Will the Settlement be Approved?

The Ontario Superior Court of Justice will hold a Fairness Hearing to decide if the proposed Settlement is fair, reasonable and adequate on October 26, 2004. The Hearing will be held at 10 a.m. at the Ontario Superior Court of Justice, 361 University Avenue, Toronto, Ontario M5G 1T3.

In addition, the United States District Court for the District of New Jersey will hold a Fairness Hearing to decide if the proposed Settlement is fair, reasonable and adequate on October 19, 2004. The Court will hold a separate second Hearing to consider Class Counsel's request for attorneys' fees. On November 3, 2004, both Hearings will be held at 10 a.m. at the United States District Court for the District of New Jersey, 462 East State Street, Room 2020, Newark, N.J. 07102.

If you remain a member of the Settlement Class, you or your counsel have the right to appear before the Court and object to the Settlement. However, in order to object, you must file a written objection, as outlined in the Settlement Agreement and Long Form Notice. Objections must be filed by May 7, 2004.

Entran II is an orange rubber hose used for radiant hydrolic heating and snowmelt systems, usually stamped with the name "Weather" or "Weather Systems" on the outside.

For information on the Proposed Settlement, Your Rights and a Copy of the Notice and Claim Form:

Visit: www.entraniiisettlement.com Call: 1-800-254-9222

or Write: Entran II Claims Administrator, P.O. Box 1051, Fort Erie, Ontario L2A 6C7

PLEASE DO NOT CALL THE COURT

MACLEAN'S GREAT CANADIAN SUMMER CONTEST



WIN
palmOne™
Treo™ 600

HOW DO YOU SEE SUMMER?

Enter the Great Canadian Summer Contest for your chance to win a palmOne™ Treo™ 600, the new voice and email device with a camera and more (retail value \$479.99), courtesy of Rogers™ Wireless. And while you're online, email us your digital photo of a great Canadian summer scene and it may be posted on the Maclean's Photo Gallery for all of Canada to see.

Visit www.macleans.ca/summercontest to enter the contest and submit your photo.

www.macleans.ca/gallery

Maclean's photo editors are out snapping shots of their favourite summer scenes with the palmOne™ Treo™ 600. Check out what summer looks like to them on the Maclean's Photo Gallery.

Maclean's Photo Gallery is updated weekly so visit regularly for new summer scenes from our photo editors and macleans.ca visitors like you.

Contest runs from Monday, July 26, 2004, 12:00 a.m. EST to Tuesday, August 31, 2004, 11:59 p.m. EST. Rules and regulations available online at www.macleans.ca/summercontest. Photo requirements: JPEG format, max. 2 megabytes file size.

MACLEAN'S

ROGERS
wireless

BACKTALK

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Warning: these killer waves can change your lifestyle

New doc tops lists and the minds of those who slay them

It's often said, surfing's more than a sport, it's a lifestyle. But never has that been more clear than in the stunning new documentary *Riding Giants*, thanks to director Stacy Peralta's use of racy action images. "The less interested in surfing footage," says Peralta, who also made the award-winning discounter film *Logan and Zee*, "and more interested in the footage of guys on the beach, drinking down the highway with girlfriends sticking out of their cars, strolling cocoanuts—stuff that

I was really looking for, the lifestyle." There's still lots of wave porn—web guys (and one guy tackling 40-foot-plus walls). Peralta introduces big-wave surfers, past and present, and asks this now, obsessed group to explain in layman's terms, not surf lingo, why they court death. "These answers are fascinating, if not exactly per se," says the 48-year-old director, a Santa Monica, Calif., surfer and former pro slalom-boarder. "And after making this film, I wasn't."

SHANNA DEZEL

"This is a life that I've really loved, it's about people who do what they do for the love of it." —Robert Irvine, chef, during *Riding Giants* at the 2004 Sundance Film Festival

BUZZ LIST

BY JEFF LABRECQUE

Further *Further* isn't the toughest and/or smartest. The editor wanted a more interesting way to write pictures of his children. "It's like your mother off."



Expenses *Expenses* is the story of a man who is a family friend, was the model. But hey, wasn't that a theory from way back in 1999? Anyone ready to move on?

For the first time *For the first time*, there's a book that's a woman, Mary Sidney Herbert, might have penned some of his plays—now that's an interesting theory.

RIDING GIANTS

Best documentary about surfing, the beach boys.

BY JEFF LABRECQUE

Latest installment of the violent shooter game has been warriors replacing. No wonder we can't get along.

BY JEFF LABRECQUE

For everyone with Gordon Shumway (Andrew), season one is finally on DVD.



BY JEFF LABRECQUE

Best and the City *City* by John Lewis takes a lead role in a Toronto moment of this Kennedy's campaign at 10. A tragedy! Only because there's no reading.



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Life | Just the helmet's regular size

As half a metre high, "pocket bikes" are motorcycles that appear to have shrunk in the wash. Enthusiasts of the tiny choppers—a recently growing bunch—say the thrill is in riding more acres from the asphalt. Take Rob (Lucky) Weir, who manages a bike shop in Hamilton. Three months ago, the 29-year-old was offered the opportunity to test one out. "I just laughed at first because I'm 6 foot 2, 230 lb.," says Weir. "But after one ride I was hooked. Now I even sell them."



Legally, they can be ridden off-road or on race tracks, but they're not street legal in Canada. Except for the odd cruise down a side street, Canadian riders—mostly boys in their 20s—generally stick to road edge car tracks. They race in groups of 15 to 45, reaching speeds of 30 km/h on

have launched campaigns against them. The problem? They aren't exactly the safest way to travel. Riders sit at eye level to car bumpers, and have no headlights. Canadian bikers say they've been road reprimanded down South are giving the sport a bad rap. "It would be good if everybody would smarten up," says Mike Ward, who races in Hamilton. "We're a bit more responsible up here. But don't tell anyone." SARAH TREETS

SIXTY-ONE PER CENT of divorced couples say counting up a marriage is the most depressing event in a person's life.

Gaming | No hope for gold—or silver

With latest events, pro game-pod combat, and first prizes, *Atmos 2004 PlayStation 2* barely makes it out of the starting block—offering little more than rapid button pushing. Strange, considering how few videogames

have come since 2004's Summer Games for the Xbox 2000—which required nothing than a bit of old-school. Unfortunately, this latest Olympic-inspired attempt showcases some of the most tedious events—including archery and the long jump. Where are the games inventors like soccer or basketball? There's no room anywhere near the medal podium for this stinker. JORDAN CHIZZ



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point, like true love, is a commitment, and that's what wouldn't many someone after a single date. (Jarless, of course, you're not in Vegas.) It's not time to paint a room, hold in a sample, bleed no bigger than a poker chip. Not only does a colour appear to change depending on what other colours are nearby, it intensifies over a long-term, latent reaction. To get the sense of the final result you had to look a little and size some out a while. I have, however, it's overall, clear ultra-ultra-matured. They have lost their variability—they're still only in select speciality outlets—and lack the designer need of Ralph Lauren's or Martin's lines. They sales (at City Service Sampling Co.) say, in fact, that others are following suit, indicating point between Benjamin Moore. We tested three of the most tested sellers in for their samples sold up and how many their interior and paint were to do. AMANDA HENRI



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THE REEL-WORLD REPLAY

Summer movies are supposed to offer escape. Someone screwed up.

IT'S BEEN a confusing summer. Last in July I went to Boston for the Democratic National Convention. I saw Michael Moore. I watched a group of military veterans swear that John Kerry was the laziest, bravest, warmest, most wonderful human being they've ever known.

I watched Al Franken acting like a TV reporter. I heard dark theories about a regime that was fair to control the population. I saw newsmen whose egos are mangled only

by their fear of competition.

Then I went to the movies and saw it all again.

If summer movies are supposed to offer an escape from the weightier concerns of the real world, then this year Hollywood has screwed up bigtime. I emerged from a week on the movie houses of the nation's capital to report that just about every film that's playing (and in some replay [pre-play]) of Election Year, the even bigger production than the Democrats and Republicans are staging at locations across the U.S.

In Moore's case, the screen blame is entirely inexcusable. Moore isn't really a filmmaker; he's a full-time campaigner. The camera and editing style are simply his weapons of choice. I hold off using *Requiem for Mr. X*, his anti-Bush screed, for as long as I could, knowing I'd like a lot of stand-ins myself for sitting through the one. Which is pretty much how it worked out.

At one point Moore invites his audience to have chuckles at the expense of the good folks of Tepehuanac, Va., who barely worry through a terrorism alert. What could be more possibly attack, he asks. "We have a 'Wal-Mart here,' one woman offers. The lady sitting in front of me at the movieplex called aggressively, 'Billy! Billy!'

Not 10 minutes later, Moore asks us to sympathize with state troopers in Oregon who haven't been given enough resources to guard against a terrorist attack. Why is the prospect of terrorism silly in Virginia and scary in Oregon? Because Moore isn't applying that prospect. He's just showing everything he can find in George W. Bush's



In 1982, Northing Frye wrote that propaganda "adopts a highly characteristic style derived from a desire to reach certain conclusions in advance, whatever the evidence suggests." Moore's work, unless it's Bush, is a perfect example of that.

So I was surprised to see Moore sitting next to Jimmy and Rosalynn Carter during Bill Clinton's speech at the Democratic convention. John Kerry, the nominee, had sent out word that he'd tolerate no hushing of Bush during his convention. And here was America's most celebrated Bush-basher sitting two seats away from one ex-president while another spoke. It was hushing by association.

But then, Hollywood and Washington are matching in all sorts of odd ways. Election '04 is pretty obvious (the jawless Dennis Hooper to help the Democrats with his donor remake of John F. Kennedy's career, the classic period setting, *The Manchurian Candidate*). In Dennis's case, the brainwashed candidate's mind hasn't been stolen by the

Chinese and the Russians, but by a sinister corporation with obvious similarities to Halliburton, the company Vice President Dick Cheney used to run.

But the worst real-world parallel is one Dennis cannot have intended. His pup got caudine, played by Levi Schreiber, is a charismatic war veteran whose combat colleagues return from the battlefield swearing he saved their lives. They're wrong about that. One possesses the memories that signify Kerry's brothers in arms to such loyalty are more authentic. Yet the fictional veterans and the real-life veterans applied Schreiber and Kerry in identical terms.

Even movies that looked like sheer escapism—the news of the day. Against my better judgment, I kept going to *M. Night Shyamalan's* movies. His surprise endings keep getting spookier (alms would have been to Mel Gibson would go back to the postholer), but there's a salaciousity to his films that's oddly affecting. His latest, *The Village*, is about leaders who warn their people that scary creatures will go there if they wander too far. An enemy, we learn, comes in handy. "Fear does work," Democratic congressman Jim McDermott tells Moore in *Requiem for Mr. X*. "You make [people] afraid by creating an idea of endless threat." Presumably Shyamalan's point.

I suppose I should be trying to make serious points, but I'm afraid I'll just sound pompous and brain dead, like Will Ferrell in *Anchorman: The Legend of Ron Burgundy*. Laugh all you want, there were moments when Ferrell's game of a reporter who can't stand real talent, especially if it wears a skirt, seemed closer to documentary truth than a lot of what Moore put on the screen. Of all the canons Ferrell could pick for a comedy about an egomaniacal nut, why'd he pick journalism? For some of us, it's the constant question of the summer.

To comment: backpage@mcclintock.com
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